

HATH HELL NO FURY?

Damnation and the doubting bishop

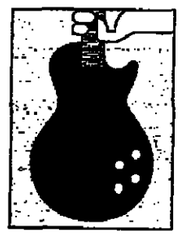
Pages 6, 15, 16 and 17



BRAVERY AWARDS

Youngsters fighting against the odds

Children of courage, page 3



WIN THE TOP 100

Chance to own the all-time best albums

Rock competition, page 3

30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,827 WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15 1993 RK

Sensitive areas excluded

World trade free-for-all 'imminent'

BY GEORGE BROCK IN GENEVA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

■ Although the Gatt deal proclaimed yesterday promises a new world trade order, those areas set aside threaten to make its birth problematic

HOPES of a global trade pact opening markets between more than a hundred countries grew last night after Europe and America cleared the biggest obstacle to a world treaty.

But negotiations are likely to continue right up to tomorrow's 5 am deadline as other nations sharply objected to some of the deals agreed by the world's two biggest trading blocs.

The Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) is designed to create a world free-for-all in hundreds of markets. But America and the EC agreed to exclude or limit the trade in films, music, textiles, civil aircraft, shipping and financial services. That meant difficult talks for diplomats in Geneva trying to win approval of other countries. Peter Sutherland, Gatt's director-general, said last night: "New proposals have been introduced in sensitive areas; nothing should be assumed to be done until everything is done."

Asian governments are particularly infuriated by a joint decision by Sir Leon Brittain, for the EC, and America's Mickey Kantor to reopen textile agreements in an attempt to improve access to Asian, Latin American and Australian markets. Japan is also angered by the decision to set aside audio-visual markets. "We had made very difficult decisions on rice and we hoped that each country would make a corresponding decision to have as big a package as possible," a Japanese negotiator said.

Sir Leon and Mr Kantor, who pledged to work shoulder-to-shoulder to sell the package to the rest of the world, had "agreed to disagree" on the audio-visual element after all-night talks failed to resolve their dispute over access to European markets for American films and television programmes. The decision to put the issue aside was described as "a great and beautiful victory for Europe and for French culture," by the French communications minister, Alain Carignon. But Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Pictures Association of America, said: "I'm outraged. The failure of the EC to negotiate seriously was a deliberate act of protectionism."

President Clinton said last night that he was disappointed that the industry would not be covered by Gatt, but added: "I didn't want to settle for a bad deal, so we took it out." Negotiators were on the verge of an historic victory in the global trade talks, he said. "I have instructed our negotiators to push very hard for our objectives as they conclude the remaining details. I have made it clear that I will not accept a bad (agreement), but that we will not spare any effort to fight for a good one."

Negotiators have to clinch the deal tonight as Mr Clinton has declare by midnight (5am GMT) that he intends to sign it. After that, it would be subject to amendment by Congress. Mr Kantor and Sir Leon emerged elated from their talks yesterday to predict that there was enough momentum to ensure the wider talks would be completed in time.

If it is, international markets will be given an immediate boost and an extra £200 billion a year could be pumped into the ailing world economy within ten years of the treaty coming into effect in 1995. "It means, I believe, a much-needed breath of fresh air for a somewhat beleaguered European economy and, as well, a dose of oxygen for the world economy," Sir Leon said.

But trade officials admitted that Europe and America had drastically shrunk the scope of the proposed treaty's rules on trade in services, which are to be put under global rules for the first time. "It's less impressive than it might have been," one Gatt official said. Talks on bringing financial services into the treaty will continue for another 18 months, and shipping and civil aircraft subsidies will also be excluded.

Given that American officials had already conceded some French demands to reschedule farm subsidy cuts, EC negotiators appear to have won surprisingly clear victories on both films and in persuading America to limit its use of a formidable armoury of unilateral trade weapons. "Everything which is audio-visual, everything which touches on culture, will not be in the free trade market, will not be included in Gatt," M Carignon said.

But confusion surrounded differing European and American interpretations of some parts of the agreements reached yesterday. Hugo Paeman, a senior EC negotiator, said that America would not be able in future to use its "Super 301" trade sanctions law on areas of trade covered by Gatt. He added that although there would be no EC-US agreements on market access for American films, "audio-visual" trade would still be counted as in the treaty.

American officials seemed to suggest that they would feel free to use any trade law to lever open markets not included in the new Gatt document. "We are going to open markets and expand trade and use every tool available to us," Mr Kantor said. He added that Article 301, America's heavyweight trade weapon, was "quite alive and well".

Major and Reynolds meet today

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major and Albert Reynolds were "very close to agreement" last night on the substance of a joint declaration that both hope could open the way to permanent peace in Ulster.

The two men will meet in London today, after final details were ironed out by the two sides in intense negotiations which went on throughout yesterday.

The two men spoke on the telephone twice during the day, and their officials were in constant touch, as they tried to narrow their differences for their third and final meeting in a fortnight to go ahead. But so delicate were the remaining issues that no one was prepared to take anything for granted.

It was clear that both sides were anxious to extract the last possible movement from the other. But their aim was clearly to get a deal that could enable a London meeting to take place either today or tomorrow.

After a 6pm call between senior officials, Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, said it had produced "substantial progress". He said there could be other calls, and

Continued on page 2, col 6

Simon Jenkins, page 16

INSIDE

French "victory" 10
Peter Brookes 16
Financial services cut 21
Pennington 23
Colin Narbrough 24

INDEX

Arts 29-31
Births, marriages, deaths 18
Chess 8,40
Court and Social 18
Diary 16
Law Report 32
Property 33
Times Two Crossword 40
Weather 20
TV & Radio 39

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CHRIS HARRIS

Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman, and his wife Suha at Heathrow airport yesterday. The PLO chief, on his first visit to Britain, had lunch with Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary

Payouts to be cut for victims of sex attacks

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN and children who are raped or sexually assaulted will receive much less compensation for their suffering under Government proposals to be published today.

The plans to overhaul the system for compensating victims of crime, set out in a White Paper, may mean that women receive as little as £10,000 for a gang rape and £3,000 for a serious indecent assault, near to a third of some present awards. Children who suffer abuse over a period of three years could receive as little as £3,000, and £1,000 if the abuse is over one year.

The White Paper will also suggest cuts of up to 90 per cent in compensation for the families of murder and manslaughter victims. People who suffer permanent facial disfigurement or other serious injuries are likely to see awards cut by about two thirds.

The proposals will replace the discretionary scheme operated by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to compensate for injuries as a result of crime, for pain and suffering and for financial losses.

The Government is seeking a tariff system of fixed awards for different kinds of injuries, at levels expected to be far lower than the present. The tariffs being considered for female victims of rape and other sexual assaults have been disclosed to the pressure group Women Against Rape (WAR), which has warned of their likely impact.

Present awards for rape or sexual assault vary greatly according to the circumstances of the crime. In May 1992 Women Against Rape helped secure £25,000 on appeal to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board for a woman who was raped by her husband.

The proposed tariffs include: £7,500 for rape or buggery of a child or an adult; £10,000 for rape or buggery of an adult by more than one person or repeated rape or buggery of a child over a period of up to three years: and £3,000 for a serious indecent assault on an adult.

WAR said: "Earlier Government statements claimed the tariffs would be equivalent to 'average' awards under the old system, but the suggested figures are token sums."

Victims who suffered most and at present receive more than the average award would be hit hardest, WAR added. "In some cases women lose their jobs, homes, marriages or other relationships, education or career prospects, as the result of an attack. Many suffer the effects for the rest of their lives."

In particular, the proposal not to take account of a woman's loss of earnings, which is explicitly recognised under the present scheme, would

Continued on page 3, col 4

Zhirinovsky says he is ready to join coalition

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW AND EVE-ANN PRENTICE

RUSSIAN reformists wrangled over their election humiliation yesterday, while Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the far-right leader, declared he was ready to join any ruling coalition. The Liberal Democratic Party leader exuded moderation after gaining a quarter of the votes so far counted from Sunday's parliamentary elections and said he was willing to join a coalition "to save Russia" and that he bore President Yeltsin no ill will.

Mr Zhirinovsky upset many Germans when it emerged that he had threatened the country with nuclear disaster if it tried to interfere in Russia's internal affairs. North German Radio in Hamburg broadcast a tape in which it said Mr Zhirinovsky stated before the elections that he would not hesitate to "create new Hiroshimas and Nagasakis" or a "Chernobyl in Germany" to keep the Germans away from Russia.

Excerpts from the broadcast were distributed in Bonn yesterday. "The Germans are interfering in Russia now, but if a German looks at Russia the wrong way when I'm in the Kremlin, you Germans will pay for all that we Russians have built up in Germany," Mr Zhirinovsky was quoted as saying.

"The same goes for the Japanese," he went on. "I will not hesitate to deploy atomic weapons."

The rise of the nationalists has prompted Israel to urge Russian Jews to emigrate. Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, called for all Jews to live in Israel.

In Moscow, Mr Zhirinovsky objected to three key liberal reformers in the present cabinet — Anatoli Chubais, the Privatisation Minister, Andrei Kozyrev, the Foreign Minister, and Yegor Gaidar, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Reform — indicating that his priority would be to bring changes in the economy and foreign policy.

Alarm at the emerging election result prompted John Major to give a warning that the sovereignty of independent countries of the former Soviet Union had to be respected. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, described Mr Zhirinovsky's rise as "alarming".

Dark star, page 12
German links, page 13
Daniel Johnson, page 14
Leading article and Letters, page 17



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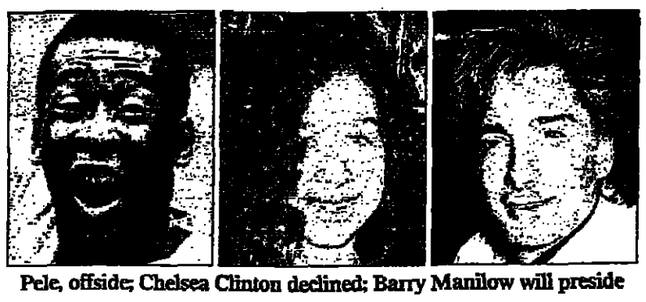
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7/15.12.93/MAP

Pele loses World Cup place to Barry Manilow

FROM ROB HUGHES FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT IN MIAMI



Pele, offside; Chelsea Clinton declined; Barry Manilow will preside

THE organisers of next June's football World Cup have been caught offside days before the grand occasion to launch the event. The draw for World Cup USA '94 takes place on Sunday in Las Vegas, but with the sport's greatest figure on the substitutes' bench.

Most Americans would have trouble telling Maradona from Madonna, but they would have no such difficulty with Edson Arantes do Nascimento, better known as Pele, the celebrated Brazilian. But Pele, 53, will be confined to the wings during the grand draw.

He is being sued for defamation in Brazil by Ricardo Teixeira, the president of the Brazilian Soccer Confederation. Pele had accused Senhor Teixeira of complicity in corruption after his own company had lost a joint bid for the rights to televise the 1993 Brazilian national championship. Senhor Teixeira is the son-in-law of João Havelange, president of world football's governing body, and on Monday Senhor Havelange was reported to have said that it would be impossible for a man in litigation with his own federation to to take a prominent part in the ceremony.

The World Cup showpiece — the Republic of Ireland is the only home qualifier — could be the real loser. The American World Cup committee asked Magic Johnson, the basketball star, to take part; he demurred. Next it sought President Clinton's daughter, Chelsea. This invitation was also declined, the unspoken suggestion being that she could hardly be seen entering the world's most famous casino.

But Chelsea Clinton might be allowed to appear on videotape, thus depriving the event of the promised appearances of Rod Stewart and Elton John, both of whom had agreed to take part — but only by satellite link.

Instead, it will probably be left to Barry Manilow, the singer, to entertain the 3,500 ticket-holders and the millions watching on television on Sunday night.

Thorp begins processing nuclear waste within weeks

■ Greenpeace is to apply for a judicial review of the way John Gummer decided to approve the operation of Thorp

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Gummer will today give the go-ahead for the £2.8 billion Thorp nuclear reprocessing plant at Sellafield in Cumbria.

After 15 months of deliberation, the Environment Secretary will make a Commons statement announcing that British Nuclear Fuels Ltd can begin operating its thermal oxide reprocessing plant within a matter of a few weeks.

Mr Gummer's decision will please Tory MPs and Dr Jack Cunningham, the local MP and shadow foreign secretary, who has campaigned strongly for BNFL to be given a licence. It will also be a relief to the state-owned BNFL, which has lost £360 million because of the delay and has had to lay off staff.

But he will encounter fierce opposition from the Liberal Democrats and environmental groups, who claim that Britain is being turned into a "nuclear dustbin" for the rest of the world.

The plant, which took ten years to build, will treat domestic and foreign used nuclear fuel already stored at the site and waste shipped in from abroad under a series of potentially lucrative contracts, mainly with the nuclear power industries in Japan and Germany. The spent fuel will be converted into plutonium and uranium. An independent report has estimated annual profits at £900 million.

Mr Gummer, who was yesterday finalising his statement at ministerial meetings, will maintain that the operating licence makes commercial sense and poses no threat to public safety or the environment. But he will face an early legal challenge from Greenpeace, which is to apply for a judicial review of the way he arrived at his decision.

Thorp's critics say that since the decision to build the plant in 1978 much of its economic justification has evaporated. The price of uranium, the fuel for nuclear power stations, has plummeted and there is now little civilian use for plutonium.

Concerns about Thorp's potential for spreading nuclear weapons to unstable Arab and Asian states and the risk of nuclear accidents during transportation have been voiced by Julian Brazier, Tory MP for Canterbury and a former parliamentary aide to Gillian Shephard, who has been closely involved in the decision to license the plant. He has called for a public enquiry.

☐ A construction company has been fined £100,000 following the death of a worker on the Thorp plant. John Darroch, 43, of Kilburnie, Ayrshire, died when a steel door fell on him while it was being lifted by a crane.

Carlisle Crown Court was told that the door's sharp edges had cut through nylon webbing because packing material had not been used. GEC Alsthom Engineering of Leicester admitted failing to ensure the safety of its employees.



Cunningham: local MP sought licence



REBECCA NADEN

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, escaping from the affairs of state yesterday to donate blood at Westminster Central Hall. Politics, page 8

BBC ups tempo for musicians

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

THE BBC's five orchestras will enter the competitive musical market-place under "producer choice" proposals requiring them to sell performances back to the corporation.

In a move bound to create anxiety in the wider orchestral world, the BBC orchestras have been told to earn more money by competing for recording contracts and concert performances with others.

Nicholas Kenyon, controllor of Radio 3 and the new director of the BBC Proms, said: "We are not reducing our commitment to the orchestras, but there is a problem with oversupply of material to Radio 3. We want the orchestras to become much more aware of opportunities in the external market-place."

Announcing the results of the study yesterday, the BBC board of management emphasised that "the BBC orchestras will flourish in a changing environment only if their working practices change". The corporation wants each orchestra to become an individual unit of production.

Kenyon's pledge, page 31

Major and Reynolds 'very close' to deal

Continued from page 1

added: "We are very close: it is worth persisting with."

Final agreement will bring to a conclusion the initiative begun by Mr Major and Mr Reynolds at the October 29 special European Council summit meeting. The intention had been originally to try to reach a deal at a Dublin summit. In the event that encounter, on December 3, was downgraded into one of three working meetings. It was followed by a second at the European Union summit in Brussels last Friday.

At each, progress has gradually been made. After the first, Mr Reynolds said that Britain and Ireland were halfway to a deal, and after the second, he said they were 70 per cent of the way there.

But the two men have driven a hard bargain.

Mr Major is known for his tough negotiating skills, but, according to insiders, Mr Reynolds has shown that he, too, can hold his corner.

The first call yesterday was at 10.25am after which Downing Street announced that good progress had been made. The next came at around 4 pm after Mr Major had been to the Commons for question time. Throughout the day London officials had seemed more optimistic than those in Dublin. Then after the the third call, the mood in Dublin sharply improved.

After the 4pm call, which lasted 10 minutes, British officials said the differences now amounted to "square brackets". They described the exchanges as "constructive".

Mr Reynolds, questioned in the Dublin parliament after the second call, said: "The process for peace is still on course. More than that I cannot say."

Earlier yesterday Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and Michael Ancram, the Northern Ireland Political Development Minister, had been called into Downing Street to discuss the latest draft. Both sides agreed that the third meeting could not go ahead until the main points had been agreed.

James Molyneaux, the Unionist leader, is thought to have been kept abreast of the talks as they have gone on.

Simon Jenkins, page 16

Mayhew offered to resign over IRA blunders

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SIR Patrick Mayhew confirmed yesterday that he offered to resign because of errors in the government papers that gave details of secret contacts with the IRA.

He said he had accepted full ministerial responsibility for the mistakes, which were discovered after the documents were placed in the House of Commons library, but John Major had refused his offer to resign.

Speaking in Belfast, the Northern Ireland Secretary said: "The Prime Minister felt that, while the errors were unfortunate, they were not a matter of ministerial resignation. The reason I did that is I think it is rather a good doctrine that when things go seriously wrong the man at the top sincerely makes an offer to carry the can."

The Government's admission late last month of "typographical errors" in the documents was acutely embarrassing. It came after Sinn Fein had accused ministers of lying after Sir Patrick repeatedly denied contacts with the IRA. The admission also confirmed Sinn Fein's version of one of the documents.

Sir Patrick denied yesterday, however, that the errors showed the Government had lied and Sinn Fein had been telling the truth. Important details could not be disclosed because the channel of communication had to remain secret, he said.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president who has done his best to exploit the Government's unease over its contacts with the IRA, maintained the pressure last night. "If he was really going to resign he would have done so. The media needs to be careful that this is not part of an effort to redeem Mr Mayhew."

Ulster Unionists defended the minister. Jim Wilson, the party's general secretary, said the Secretary of State might not have been "totally in the picture" because of the nature of intelligence gathering.

Sir Patrick is the second Northern Ireland Secretary to offer his resignation to Mr Major. In January 1992, Peter Brooke offered to give up the post after singing on a Dublin television chat show just after seven Protestants were killed by an IRA bomb.

☐ An elderly woman collapsed and died yesterday as she was evacuated from her home after the IRA planted a 1,500lb bomb in Belfast city centre.

Bridie Glennon, 78, was one of hundreds of people who were asked to move to community centres at about 4.30am while bomb disposal experts worked on a van filled with explosives.

The bomb was discovered hours after the reopening of the Grand Opera House, the ornate 19th-century building that was nearly destroyed by a 1,000lb device in May.

In England, tens of thousands of commuters had their journeys disrupted after a bomb exploded in the early hours on a railway track near Woking station, Surrey. No one was injured but the explosion caused a 2ft-wide crater. Police said it bore the hallmarks of an IRA device.

Neighbours urged to police parents

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

NEIGHBOURS and relatives were urged yesterday by Welsh Secretary John Redwood to put pressure on irresponsible parents who let their children roam the streets late at night.

Mr Redwood said that the Government could only go so far in strengthening family values and called on responsible parents and members of the community to patrol their streets, make sure that young children were behaving properly and morally censure neglectful parents.

Talking at a parliamentary press gallery lunch, he said: "I think it is up to us to highlight the issue and encourage relatives, friends and other people who live in the community to put on those normal community pressures against those parents who don't care enough to look after their young children."

He added that the small minority of parents who did not know where their young children were late at night were letting down the whole community.

He also praised Home Secretary Michael Howard's plans to lock up young offenders: "This would mean that thugs would not be able to act as pied pipers to younger children."

CORRECTION

The Tree Council is not a government body (as reported on December 9) but a charity relying heavily on donations and legacies. We apologise for the error.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fishermen win end to days-at-sea quota

Controversial plans to keep British fishing boats tied up in port for much of the year were shelved yesterday by the Government after months of protest from the industry. The announcement by Michael Jack, the Fisheries Minister, in a Commons written reply, destroyed at a stroke what the Government had long insisted was the central plank of its policy for conserving dwindling fish stocks.

It means that the days-at-sea controls, which were due to have come into effect next month and would have applied only to British vessels, will be postponed for at least 18 months pending a judgment by the European Court in Luxembourg. Legal sources said that the court could take two years to deliver a verdict.

Professor named judge

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, appointed the first High Court judge from outside the ranks of practising lawyers. Professor Brenda Hoggett QC has been a Law Commissioner since 1984, overseeing proposals to reform the divorce laws. She will be known as Mrs Justice Hale, her maiden name.

Talks on GCHQ unions

The prime minister is to see trade union leaders on Monday to discuss the ban on unions at the GCHQ intelligence centre. The talks — the first at this level since the ban was introduced ten years ago — were arranged after the Civil Service unions met senior Whitehall officials.

BBC executive to move



Janet Street-Porter, right, the colourful BBC executive, is expected shortly to relinquish her position as head of youth programmes (Alexandra Frean writes). Ms Street-Porter, 48, is believed to be about to take up a job within the corporation as co-ordinator of independent television production in London.

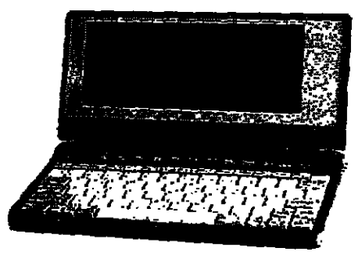
Rush hour to cost more

Drivers who use motorways at rush hour are likely to be charged extra while those who travel at off-peak times would be rewarded with a lower rate, John MacGregor, Transport Secretary, told the Royal Society of Arts in London last night. "If we use variable charging to smooth out the peaks, traffic would flow more freely," he said.

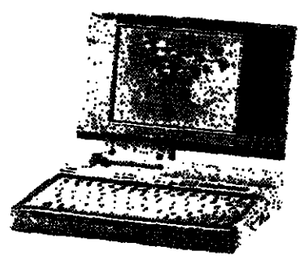
Snow search called off

Fears are growing for the safety of two off-duty soldiers missing for four days in severe weather in Glencoe. A search for the men from the Airborne Brigade was called off for the day yesterday because of failing light. Worsening weather forced most of the searchers off the mountain with only a handful of men left.

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Girl of 10 speaks out after surviving horrific crash injuries

'Killer driver should get life'



Leigh-Ann: lost both legs and her two best friends



SIMON WALKER

Nieka Chetwyn, 9, from Prestwich, Greater Manchester, a bravery award winner, with her parents Karen and Phil

BY RICHARD DUCE

THE ten-year-old girl who lost both her legs and her two best friends to a drunk driver said yesterday that he should have been jailed for life.

Leigh-Ann Johns, who was receiving a Children of Courage Award in London, said that the four-year prison sentence imposed on Robert Hoe, 18, was not enough. "I was very upset and angry. I think he should have been in jail for life."

Hoe's drunken driving condemned Leigh-Ann to a long and painful fight to recover from her horrific injuries. Hoe span off the road outside a sweet shop and into the three girls.

At Westminster Abbey yesterday she was joined by seven other children who received bravery awards in recognition for their battles with illness, ignorance and war.

In Leigh-Ann's home town of Middlesbrough the anger that followed Monday's sentencing at Teesside Crown Court continued unabated. Every caller to BBC Radio Cleveland morning phone-in show believed that Hoe's crime was tantamount to murder after the deaths of sisters Rachel and Maria Reed. The maximum sentence for Hoe under dangerous driving laws was five years, although under new legislation, effected after his arrest, he could have faced a ten-year jail term.

Ken Snowdon, senior producer at Radio Cleveland, said: "One caller pointed out that at the same court one chap mugged someone for £3 and a watch and he got four years. Someone else broke into a house and stole some jewellery and he got four years."

Before the Children of Courage Awards, sponsored by *Woman's Own* and presented by Betty Boothroyd, Speaker of the House of Commons, Leigh-Ann's mother Linda Johns, 30, said: "I would give him life or the death penalty if there was one."

Other children whose bravery was recognised included Edhem Dedovic, a victim of atrocities in Bosnia who underwent treatment for bomb injuries in England, and Samantha Thompson, 14, who was injured by the IRA's bomb attack in Warrington. Edhem, 11, was flown to Britain with his mother in the Operation Irma airlift last August after being wounded in a mortar attack. Miss Boothroyd was close to tears as she was told that Edhem would rather be back in Sarajevo than without his father.

It was not until Edhem was taken to University College Hospital, London, that surgeons and his family told him that he had lost an eye in the attack. He has endured several operations to rebuild his face, using bits of rib and cartilage.

Samantha, 14, of Orford, Warrington, was injured in March by the bomb that killed her friend Johnathan Bull, 3. Her mother, Barbara, said: "Samantha is still very quiet. She is still very upset about what happened and has not been able to go to the centre of town."

The other award winners were:

Nieka Chetwyn, 9, from Prestwich, Greater Manchester, who is still recovering after being wrongly diagnosed in Birmingham as having cancer. She received chemotherapy treatment, which ended in October when the mistake was diagnosed.

Stuart Abbott, 11, from Hull, who saved the life of a mechanic who ignited his petrol-soaked overalls accidentally with a cigarette.

Dawn Foster, 13, from Massingham, Norfolk, who started a campaign against bullying after becoming a victim at school. She disclosed extracts from her diary and received hundreds of letters from victims.

Kayleigh Moore, 5, from Torquay, Devon, who has had to endure a series of life-saving operations after being born with misplaced internal organs.

Thomas Zippo, 8, from Stantonbury, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, who has shown great courage despite a lifetime of operations, including open-heart surgery at the age of one.

After the ceremony, the children met celebrities from the world of television, entertainment and sport: Paul Young, Felice Arena from *Neighbours*, Sarah Greene, Mike Smith, Patricia Routledge, Anthony Andrews, Tony Hart, Patricia Hodge and the footballer Ian Wright.

Times experts to name rock's top 25 albums

BY LIN JENKINS



ON SATURDAY, after weeks of debate by a panel of experts, *The Times* will name the top 25 albums in the history of rock.

Because *The Times* experts deemed that no band could be included more than twice, both professional and amateur pundits can make reasonable guesses about which albums will make the top 25, since numbers 26 to 100 have already been published (see below).

The Beatles' *Sergeant Pepper* is bound to be there, but at number one? The panel has already admitted there is, surprisingly, no Dire Straits (*Brothers in Arms* was number 102), no Simply Red and no Phil Collins or Genesis. But will REM, Paul Simon or the Sex Pistols win a place in the top 25?

Those taking part in *The Times* competition to name the top ten will recall that several of the albums included in the list were never hits but still achieved legendary status. Only seven of the top 50 are less than 20 years old.

John Peel, veteran broadcaster and renowned talent spotter, is upset that no Frank Zappa album has yet appeared. Yet he believes such selections will stimulate debate in a positive way. He said: "I am always uncertain when people intellectualise about it, but it is interesting to see what other people have chosen."

Since he was once asked to choose his own top eight for Radio 4's *Desert Island Discs*, he has first-hand knowledge of the debate that such choices fuel. "As soon as you do it, you notice glaring oversights. People write in and you realise this is the case. One of the great joys about rock is that is that it can be disposable and is of the moment."

David Sinclair, rock critic of *The Times* and a member of the panel, was surprised at the inclusion of Nick Drake, whom he believes is overrated. "I view him as a complete outsider," he said. As to the number one, he would put his money on Bob Dylan taking the accolade.

Mr Sinclair said: "Rock is by definition contemporary, but there is a huge body of music that has proved itself and is appealing to not just older people but to young people as well. Just look at Meatloaf topping the charts. He was around 20 years ago, but even now has overall appeal."

Also on the panel are Simon Frith, chairman of the Mercury Music awards, Annie Nightingale and Mark Radcliffe from BBC Radio 1FM, Richard Skinner from Virgin 1215, Tracey MacLeod from BBC 2's *Late Show*, Richard Park, head of Capital Radio, Mark Storey, head of Piccadilly Radio, Jon Myer, head of GLR, and Sammy Jacob, of XFM, bidders for a licence to broadcast in London.



Paul Simon: entries include *Graceland*

☐ The list so far: 26 Joni Mitchell, *Blue*; 27 The Who, *Who's Next*; 28 Bob Dylan, *The Times They Are A-Changin'*; 29 Prince, *Sign o' the Times*; 30 Cream, *Disraeli Gears*; 31 Bob Marley and the Wailers, *Exodus*; 32 Elvis Costello, *My Aim is True*; 33 The Rolling Stones, *Beggars' Banquet*; 34 Crosby Stills and Nash, *Crosby Stills Nash*; 35 Peter Gabriel, *So*; 36 Talking Heads, *Remain in Light*; 37 The Jimi Hendrix Experience, *Electric Ladyland*; 38 Paul Simon, *Graceland*; 39 Roxy Music, *For Your Pleasure*; 40 The Band, *Music From Big Pink*; 41 Led Zeppelin, *Led Zeppelin*; 42 Carole King, *Tapestry*; 43 The Doors, *The Doors*; 44 Cream, *Wheels of Fire*; 45 The Clash, *London Calling*; 46 James Brown, *Live at the Apollo*; 47 Prefab Sprout, *Steve McQueen*; 48 Iggy Pop and The Stooges, *Raw Power*; 49 Marvin Gaye, *What's Going On*; 50 The Smiths, *The Queen is Dead*.

51 The Small Faces, *Ogden's Nut Gone Flake*; 52 REM, *Out of Time*; 53 Steely Dan, *Countdown to Ecstasy*; 54 Talking Heads, *Stop Making Sense*; 55 Rod Stewart, *Every Picture Tells a Story*; 56 Janis Joplin, *Pearl*; 57 Simple Minds, *New Gold Dream (81-82-83-84)*; 58 Marvin Gaye, *Let's Get It On*; 59 Paul Simon, *There Goes Rhymin' Simon*; 60 Nick Drake, *Five Leaves Left*; 61 Elvis Costello and The Attractions, *Armed Forces*; 62 The Police, *Outlandos D'Amour*; 63 Van Morrison, *Avalon Sunset*; 64 Blondie, *Parallel Lines*; 65 The Jam, *Sound Affects*; 66 Sly and The Family Stone, *There's a Riot Goin' On*; 67 The Doors, *LA Woman*; 68 Leonard Cohen, *Songs of Leonard Cohen*; 69 The Pretenders, *The Pretenders*; 70 REM, *Green*; 71 Stevie Wonder, *Talking Book*; 72 The Stone Roses, *The Stone Roses*; 73 Stevie Wonder, *Songs in the Key of Life*; 74 Creedence Clearwater Revival, *Cosmo's Factory*; 75 Paul McCartney and Wings, *Band on the Run*.

76 The Jam, *All Mod Cons*; 77 Nirvana, *Nevermind*; 78 Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, *Deja Vu*; 79 George Harrison, *All Things Must Pass*; 80 Love, *Forever Changes*; 81 The Eagles, *Hotel California*; 82 Fairport Convention, *Liege and Lief*; 83 The Byrds, *Sweetheart of the Rodeo*; 84 The Police, *Synchronicity*; 85 Neil Young, *American Stars 'n' Bars*; 86 Queen, *A Night at the Opera*; 87 Ry Cooder, *Paradise and Lunch*; 88 Madness, *One Step Beyond*; 89 Elton John, *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road*; 90 The Waterboys, *Fisherman's Blues*; 91 Jackson Browne, *The Pretender*; 92 Free, *Fire & Water*; 93 The Pogues, *Rum, Sodomy & the Lash*; 94 Little Feat, *Feats Don't Fail Me Now*; 95 The Band, *The Band*; 96 Donald Fagen, *The Nightfly*; 97 Michael Jackson, *Thriller*; 98 Pet Shop Boys, *Actually*; 99 Pink Floyd, *The Wall*; 100 U2, *The Unforgettable Fire*.

Readers can win all 100 top albums by forecasting correctly the top ten named in *The Times* magazine this Saturday. Entries should be sent to Albums, Promotions Department, *The Times*, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN. Normal *Times* rules will apply. Only entries with a datemark of December 14-17 will be considered. The first correct or closest entry opened next Tuesday will win. Three runners-up will win 50 albums.

Reed claims stand-in fell fetching more champagne

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

OLIVER Reed told a High Court judge yesterday that he was defending himself when a confrontation with his film stand-in ended with the man flying over a balustrade and on to a coral beach.

The actor said that a back injury to Reg Prince was not caused by that fall but when he slipped later while fetching a bottle of champagne.

Mr Reed, 55, who was giving evidence in a damages action brought against him by Mr Prince, said that as the stand-in came at him at a restaurant in the Seychelles, where he was filming *Castaway* in 1986, he sidestepped and deflected him because "I was concerned about my health".

Mr Reed said that after the balustrade incident the two men made up their quarrel over several bottles of champagne. He said that Mr Prince never complained about an injury to his back.

He claimed that the injury was caused when Mr Prince slipped later that night on a concrete path while bringing a fourth bottle of champagne to a drinking session at Mr Reed's bungalow in the grounds of a hotel where they were both staying.

Mr Prince, 57, from Wimbledon, southwest London, who fractured his spine in two places and has not worked since, claims that Mr Reed tipped him off the 12ft balustrade in a drunken prank which went wrong. He accuses Mr Reed either of deliberate and reckless lack of care or of negligence.

Mr Justice Owen is being asked to decide the question of liability only. Any damages will be assessed later.

Mr Reed said that at the restaurant La Reserve, on the island resort of Praslin, his friend and stand-in for 20 years had become unaccountably aggressive towards another friend, John "Ginger" Hughes, who was on holiday.



Reed: "deflected" Reg Prince onto the beach

Mr Reed told the judge: "Reg started getting aggressive to Mr Hughes. I said something like, 'Don't behave like a bloody fool', and Reg and I started to get heated.

"The look in Reg's eyes was very serious. I responded by showing no fear and by withdrawing."

Mr Reed added: "It got more and more agitated and he then took up the table knife and started round the table towards me. I decided to withdraw and try and calm things down. I withdrew onto the pier. I backed away.

"I kept Reg within my sights mainly, then I heard the thundering of feet and a blasphemy. Reg came at me and I deflected him and he went over the balustrade onto the beach."

Mr Prince may by that time have dropped the knife, but he did not know for sure, he said.

By the time Mr Prince recovered and made his way back from the beach, his behaviour had become "sheepish", Mr Reed told the court. The two men and Mr Hughes took a taxi from the restaurant without eating and at no time, Mr Reed said, did Mr Prince complain of pain to his back.

He said that after the bar at their hotel closed later that evening Mr Prince took his turn to bring a bottle of champagne to his bungalow. "After about seven or eight minutes my wife and I heard the slapping noise of flesh on concrete and a cry. Reggie then came into the bungalow and said, 'Cor, I think I have done my back in, but I've saved the champagne.'"

The case continues.

Sex attack payouts to be cut

Continued from page 1

mean severe hardship. "Women will have to pay the price financially, as well as physically and emotionally.

"Government proposals such as the Child Support Act [which forces absent husbands to pay child maintenance] and other policies make women more vulnerable to attack in an increasingly violent and desperate society." Cuts in public transport and street lighting also made women more vulnerable. "Yet, ironically, the Government says that because there are now more victims of violent crime, everyone applying for compensation must get less."

The expected changes have already been criticised by an alliance of the Law Society, the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers, the TUC and other organisations representing victims of crime, as well as by MPs.

Andrew Dismore, a personal injuries lawyer with Robin Thompson and Partners, which represents many trade union members, said the proposals were "terrible news for victims of crime. The level of awards is far less than under the present scheme, and will mean that no matter how severe the injuries, victims will lose out."

Under the proposals, families of murder and manslaughter victims may receive £10,000 plus funeral expenses, compared with awards to date of £100,000 and more. Someone suffering paralysis of four limbs, or permanent brain damage of the most extreme kind, may receive £250,000, which would be insufficient to provide for the costs of future care, Mr Dismore said. "At present awards of £500,000 are usual." A young girl suffering serious facial disfigurement may receive £7,500. At present she could expect £20,000 to £30,000, he said.

Women Against Rape has submitted to the Home Office alternative proposals to deal with defects of the present system including speeding up the handling of applications, ending discrimination against those who may delay going to the police and allowing compensation for loss of ability to perform unwaged work.

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Wife raped after she refused outdoor sex

A MAN was jailed for four years yesterday for raping his wife when she refused to have sex outdoors.

Teesside Crown Court was told that the couple were walking home from a pub through fields at midnight when the husband, 24, asked his wife for sex. David Gripton, for the prosecution, said that the woman, 22, responded by saying: "You're a married man with three children. Wait until we get home." The husband, an unemployed labourer, ripped off her clothes and raped her, the court was told.

As he became more violent, his wife's screams were heard by a man who called the police. They followed a trail of torn clothing at Haswell Plough, Co Durham, to the victim, Mr Gripton said.

She was undoubtedly under the influence of drink, but sufficiently conscious to know that she was extremely embarrassed by being found naked, he said.



Nazi death camp guard agrees to be deported to UK

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A BRITISH citizen who served as an SS guard in an Nazi concentration camp abandoned his attempt to fight deportation from the United States to the United Kingdom yesterday.

Alexander Schweidler, 71, a retired computer analyst, agreed to leave for London rather than face deportation proceedings in Miami, Florida, where he is accused of concealing his background to gain entry to the US.

Officers from Scotland Yard's war crimes unit and an official from the Crown Prosecution Service have visited the US during the past eight weeks to study the evidence against Mr Schweidler. Reports on his alleged war crimes have been passed to Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, who is also studying files on ten other alleged Nazi war criminals living in Britain.

Mr Schweidler has until February 1 to leave the US, where he is accused of concealing his past as a persecutor during the Second World War. He served as an SS guard at the Mauthausen concentration camp near Linz in Austria and is eligible for deportation because of allegedly having assisted in the persecution of civilians held at the camp. More than 67,000 Jews and other prisoners died at the Mauthausen.

Mr Schweidler has been accused of killing two Soviet prisoners while serving in the camp in April 1942, an incident he admitted a day after the deaths, according to US Justice Department papers.

According to deportation papers issued by the Justice Department, Mr Schweidler served as a member of the SS "Death's Head battalion" guarding prisoners. The papers say that last March he admitted being a member of the armed guard whose duties included patrolling the perimeter fence, guarding labouring prisoners and shooting those who attempted to escape.

He was born in Bratislava, now part of Slovakia, in 1922 and joined the Waffen SS in 1938, serving in it until the end of the war in 1945 when he was captured by the US Army. He entered Britain in 1948 and is believed to have lived in the North West.



Schweidler: accused of killing prisoners

Mr Schweidler and his wife, Anna, applied to emigrate at the US consul's office in Liverpool. He left Britain in March 1965 and last August was charged by the US immigration and nationality service with falsifying his history to gain admission to the country.

When he went to America, Mr Schweidler worked first as a caretaker and labourer before going to night school to learn about computers. He worked as a computer analyst in Connecticut before retiring to Inverness, central Florida, in 1984.

A Home Office spokesman said that, as a UK citizen, Mr Scheweidler had a right to live in Britain and would be allowed to settle back in the country.

Reports on his case and those of ten other alleged Nazi war crimes are being studied by the CPS, but officials stressed that the first war crimes trial could be up to two years away. A spokeswoman said that the documentation comprised "advice files" allowing the CPS to examine evidence and the probable defence case.

Scotland Yard's war crimes unit was set up in 1991 with a budget of £11 million. The collapse of war crime trials in Australia and Canada has driven prosecutors to insist that evidence is stronger.



The cricket commentator Brian Johnston, 81, who suffered a heart attack earlier this month, leaving St Mary's Hospital in Paddington, London, yesterday with the assistance of Caroline Kembery, left, and Claire Witcher. "Johnners", as he is know to cricket fans, will convalesce at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers

Art House propped up by benefactor

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

THE sculpture of a house, which captured the Turner Prize and has been variously described as post-war masterpiece and lumpish eyesore, has secured a stay of execution until mid-January.

An anonymous benefactor has paid for a short-term lease on the plot at the junction of Roman Road and Grove Road in east London where "House" stands, extending the sculpture's life and fuelling the anger of local councillors.

Rachel Whiteread's sculpture was created by injecting an existing terraced building with concrete and knocking down the walls.

Bow Neighbourhood Committee set a demolition date in November. No firm could do the work at short notice and petitions were sent to Tower Hamlets council demanding that the sculpture be saved.

Several thousand pounds secured a second contract between Whiteread's representative gallery, Karsten Schubert, and the local authority to delay the end.

Eric Flounders, the councillor who chairs the committee and who is particularly opposed to the sculpture, said yesterday that he had received a 500-signature petition from residents who want to see "House" pulled down. "We like to do what local people want, not what people in Hampstead want," he said. "It's not a work of art, it's a lump of concrete."

Whiteread brushed off such complaints. "I'm delighted and relieved. It will give 'House' a reasonable life and a dignified end."



Whiteread: delighted at the outcome

English tests 'have dubious validity'

BY BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

The official verdict on the disputed tests for 14-year-olds appears to vindicate the teachers who campaigned against them

THE English tests for 14-year-olds that sparked this summer's teaching boycott were of "dubious validity", school inspectors reported yesterday.

In the first official post-mortem, the Office for Standards in Education said that many questions were inadequate, marking was inconsistent, the results were unreliable and often failed to reflect pupils' ability.

The findings appear to vindicate English teachers, whose campaign for the tests to be made voluntary triggered the largest industrial action since the miners' strike. The dispute by the three largest classroom unions remains unresolved and threatens the Conservatives' testing and curriculum reforms unless Sir Ron Dearing, the government's chief education adviser, finds a peace formula in an eagerly awaited report next month.

Yesterday's study, based on 500 inspections in 1992-93, examined the effectiveness of testing and assessment of pupils aged 7, 11, and 14. It concluded that the system of judging pupils' progress, marking and reporting to parents was too burdensome for effective teaching.

The inspectors said that, although they believed regular assessment of pupils had an important role to play in raising standards, the current system was too complicated and had weaknesses in practice. These were now being addressed by Sir Ron's review.

The report said that most seven-year-olds enjoyed taking the tests this summer. Teachers found they were slimmer and more manageable than before. However, by giving the tests to small groups of children at a time, teachers often neglected the rest of the class.

Only one in twenty schools took the tests for 14-year-olds in English, mathematics and science. The inspectors said the papers on Shakespeare and an anthology of classic English literature were the least satisfactory and "constituted an invalid assessment of pupils' attainment". The quality of the mathematics papers was good, with science generally satisfactory.

Ann Taylor, Labour's education spokeswoman, said the report confirmed the view that national testing was overloaded. The days of John Patten, the Education Secretary, "must now be numbered".

Baroness Blatch, the education minister, said the report gave clear evidence that tests and assessment were raising standards. She said that ministers had already taken steps to make the curriculum more manageable. "Teachers are now feeling more confident in setting higher and more demanding targets for their pupils."

PC held up woman in bank

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A POLICEMAN tipped for promotion after his success in arresting criminals was convicted yesterday of trying to rob a woman in a bank.

Constable Glen Balaam, 30, became desperate to pay off debts, Maidstone Crown Court was told. As he wrestled with the woman, he was grabbed by two men who held him until police arrived. When one of his colleagues removed a balaclava he was wearing, he cried: "It's Glen."

Stephen Robbins, for the prosecution, told the court that Balaam was worried that his wife, Julie, and two sons, aged 6 and 9, would be affected by his financial difficulties.

Mr Robbins said that the officer followed Patricia Sacker, a petrol station assistant, into Barclays Bank in Dartford, Kent, as she went to cash the weekend takings of £20,860. Balaam told her that he had a gun and pushed her against a wall, hurting her foot. Two male customers in the bank went to her aid and overpowered Balaam. He was not armed.

He was arrested and held in cells at the police station where he was based. He admitted attempted robbery and will be sentenced on Monday.

A detective said that Balaam, who joined the police as a cadet in 1980, had been recommended for promotion to CID after he had some success in arresting criminals. He was known to be heavily in debt.

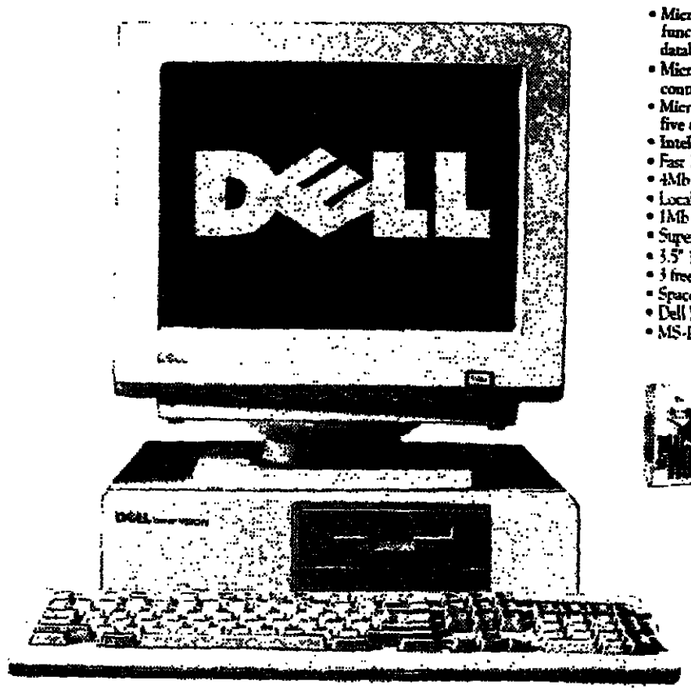
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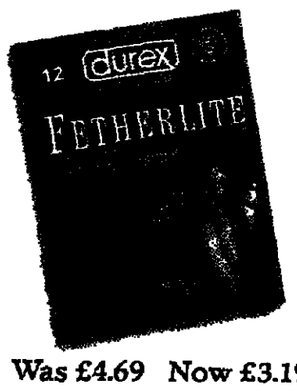
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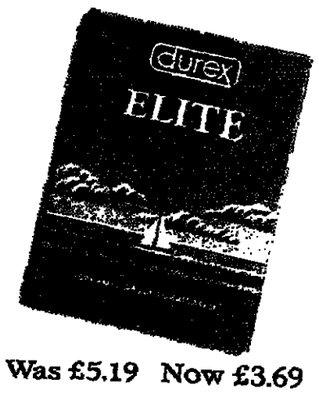
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Double shooting raises spectre of US-style gun law

BY PAUL WILKINSON

TWO men were under armed police guard in hospital last night after a street shooting was followed by a car chase and a murder attempt at the doors of the casualty department.

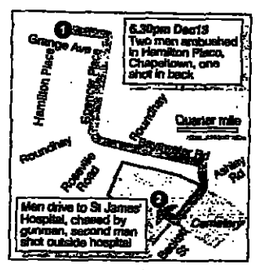
One man was critically ill in intensive care with serious head injuries after the shooting. The other, who was hit in the back, is not believed to be in danger. At least two weapons, a shotgun and a pistol, were used in the attacks.

Det Supt Philip Revill-Johnson, who is leading the hunt for the attackers, said: "We are treating this as a clear attempted murder."

Police and community leaders in Chapeltown, an inner-city district of Leeds where the incident started on Monday evening, moved quickly to discount suggestions that American-style gun law had arrived on the streets of Britain. There was concern, however, that the attackers were prepared to pursue their victims a mile and a half across Leeds into the entrance of St James's Hospital.

Mr Revill-Johnson said: "It is very worrying, firstly, that we have armed men on the streets prepared to shoot people and, secondly, prepared to prolong the attack and continue it into a general hospital.

"The fact that guns were used on the streets of Leeds is obviously worrying, but I would like to allay the fears of the public. It does appear that these two men were sought out and it does not by any means appear to be a random attempt on these men's lives."



Police were keeping an open mind on the reasons for the shooting, but Chapeltown has a reputation for drug-dealing and prostitution.

The incident began shortly after 6pm when Robert Samuels, 25, was approached in Hamilton Place, Chapeltown by four or five masked men, all in their twenties. Moments later he was shot in the head. His companion, Clifton Bryan, 23, bundled him into a red Ford Fiesta and drove at speed to St James's casualty department.

The attackers gave chase in two cars, a blue Cavalier or Sierra and a red Cavalier. The Fiesta hit a wall at the hospital and, as the two men got out, the attackers shot out its side windows. As Mr Bryan ran inside to get help he was hit in the back. The attackers then drove off.

Kevin Adams, who was in the casualty unit's waiting room when Mr Bryan ran in, said: "He was shouting 'Help me, help me, I've been shot.' He was asking for the police and the security guards and said that his friend was bleeding in the car. He said, 'Don't worry about me, just get my mate out of the car.' He was bleeding badly but he was not bothered about himself."

Detectives interviewed Mr Bryan later and officers visited addresses in Chapeltown and elsewhere in West Yorkshire during the afternoon. Police said last night that two men from Leeds, aged 17 and 37, were being questioned but enquiries were continuing.

Police are unlikely to be able to talk to Mr Samuels for several days. Mr Revill-Johnson appealed for anyone who had seen the shootings or the car chase to contact the incident room at Westwood police station.

Suburb renowned for drugs and vice

BY A STAFF REPORTER

CHAPELTOWN is another of Britain's troubled inner-city suburbs, but community leaders in Leeds are quick to claim it is not as bad as other places in similar circumstances.

There is a varied racial mix, mainly Asian and Afro-Caribbean, but, according to Chief Inspector Barry Jewitt of the Chapeltown police, that rarely poses problems. "We have good community liaison," he said. "The officer responsible is on first-name terms with community leaders and any hint of trouble can usually be defused with a few phone calls. Drugs and prostitution are problems, but on balance they are not as bad as many areas."

Neil Taggart, a district representative on Leeds City Council and chairman of the West Yorkshire police authority, recently expressed concern that drug dealers were turning to firearms to protect their interests.

The district achieved unwanted fame in the 1970s as the place where Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, picked up many of his victims. It was also where Michael Sams, the kidnapper of the estate agent Stephanie Slater, abducted Julie Dart, the teenage prostitute he later murdered.

Street crime is the biggest worry for local people. At one stage muggings were running at five a day, but a specialist robbery squad and extra police have cut that.



Twenty per cent of the children surveyed said that playing violent computer games had led them to behave in an aggressive manner

Computer violence claims real-life victims

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

VIOLENT video films and computer games may cause some children to become aggressive, and psychiatrists say more children are carrying knives and other weapons featured in films.

A survey of 400 children who played computer games found that many showed signs of addiction and one in five admitted aggressive behaviour as a result of their playing.

The survey by psychologists at a comprehensive school in Exeter showed that 99 per cent of the teenagers played computer games, half of them for at least an hour most days of the week. One in five said that they played for the "buzz" it gave them and that they became restless if they could not play — two signs of addictive behaviour.

The psychologists, from Plymouth University, who presented their findings yesterday to the London conference of the British Psychological Society, said that "addicts" tended to start playing younger and that seven out of ten were boys. Further study of the long-term effects of the games' aggressive components was of "paramount importance".

Psychiatrists say more youngsters are carrying knives and some as young as 13 have guns and wear bullet-proof vests. Some use exotic weapons seen in video films, such as crossbows and ninja stars — a sharpened metal star that is thrown at the victim. Youngsters from broken homes who have psychiatric problems are at greatest risk, according to Dr Sue Bailey, a forensic psychiatrist with Salford Health Authority. "Videos have an influence on some vulnerable children which we ignore at our peril," she said. "It is not enough to say parents should control them. They can be piped into people's homes and children can see them over and over again."

Dr Bailey told a press conference organised by the Royal College of Psychiatrists that children involved in violence could be helped and society took an unnecessarily pessimistic view. Anti-social behaviour was often a symptom of psychiatric disorder which could be treated.

Tobacco firm stubs out Reg

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE campaign to ban tobacco promotion gathered pace yesterday when one of Britain's biggest cigarette manufacturers withdrew advertisements after complaints that they encouraged children to smoke.

Imperial Tobacco took down its award-winning Embassy Regal advertisements, featuring a comic character called Reg, in response to a request from the Advertising Standards Authority. The portly, balding Reg has appeared in advertisement hoardings in northern England, Scotland, South Wales and Ulster since May 1992.

The move came as the government faces renewed pressure to ban tobacco advertising with the tabling of a private member's bill that has wide cross-party Commons support. The bill, to be introduced tomorrow by Kevin Barron, Labour MP for Rother Valley, will bar tobacco promotion and sponsorship by cigarette manufacturers. It will be one of the first private member's bills to be debated in the New Year, giving it an improved chance of becoming law.

Virginia Bottomley, the health minister, has consistently resisted EC attempts to ban cigarette advertising but has put pressure on the industry to toughen its voluntary code on shopfront advertising and advertisements in magazines read by those under 25.

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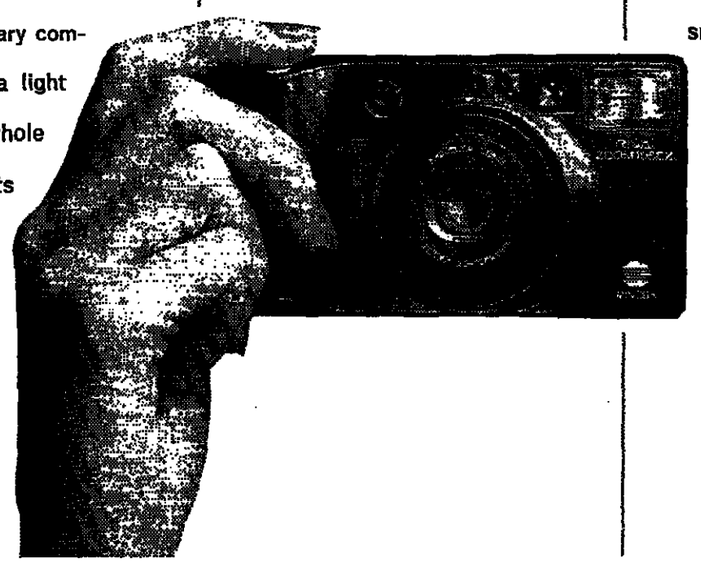
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MINOLTA RIVA ZOOM 105EX

Council tax

Town halls try to keep bills down as elections loom

By Ian Murray

AVERAGE council tax bills in England are likely to rise by 1.7 per cent next year as town halls struggle to keep down costs before the local elections in May. However, some councils, mostly Labour-controlled, look likely to present taxpayers with percentage rises well into double figures.

The average tax on a house in band C — properties worth between £52,000 and £68,000 in April 1991 — will be £513. This is £45 higher than the standard spending level of £468 suggested by John Gummer, the environment secretary, when he announced the revenue support grant on December 2.

Bills are being pushed over this guideline mainly because Mr Gummer's figure does not make allowance for non-payment of council tax, expected to cost £345 million during the current financial year. London, with its transient population, is top of the league for defaulters, with 13 per cent of bills in Southwark unpaid and an average of 8.7 per cent in the inner-city boroughs.

A computer study for *The Times* shows that tax bills should fall in 140 authorities even though the government is raising overall spending in all English districts by a uniform 2.3 per cent. About 3.7 million households will also benefit from a special government grant being paid as transitional relief where the change from poll tax to council tax has increased assessments steeply.

Of the 16 councils where bills are likely to rise by more than 10 per cent, all but three are Labour-controlled. Harsh capping is forcing the traditional big spenders to slash budgets so that the difference between flagship Conservative councils such as Wandsworth and Westminster is narrowing in comparison with Labour-held strongholds such as Newham and the Liberal Democrat Tower Hamlets.

Westminster householders face potentially the largest increase this year, with anything up to 35.3 per cent extra allowed on their bills. With elections pending, the council is not likely to agree to such a large hike. Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, where a 29.1 per cent increase is allowed, has enough income from investments to keep its tax bill down to £281 for a band C house, the lowest apart from the Isles of Scilly.

The most expensive areas include some of the more depressed regions. Liverpool, where a 21.4 per cent increase will be needed to cover spending next year, can expect the highest band C bills at £783. The high level of rebates in the area will bring the size of the average bill down.

People in Richmond upon Thames, London, will receive the highest bill in all eight property bands.

Bishop feels the heat over views on hell

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent

THE Bishop of Durham was condemned by evangelicals and traditionalists yesterday for his rejection of the concept of eternal damnation in a tortuous hell and the second coming of Christ.

Having previously questioned the literal truth of the virgin birth and the bodily resurrection, Dr David Jenkins said there was no such thing as everlasting torment in hell and there would be no second coming.

While he believed "some people will disappear into extinction and have no hope and no future", Dr Jenkins said he "cannot believe in any permanent hell in this torture sense".

He described the biblical book of Revelations, which threatens torment "day and night for ever and ever", as "pretty pathological". Dr Jenkins said: "If there is such a god, he is a small, cultic deity who is so bad-tempered that the sooner we forget him the better."

His views, expressed at a conference for Anglican lay readers, prompted criticism from senior clerics across the church spectrum. The Rt Rev David Lunn, Bishop of Sheffield, said: "The Church may not require us to believe in the physical torments associated with hell, but that is not the same as saying it does not exist."

The Rt Rev Nöel Jones, Bishop of Sodor and Man, accused Dr Jenkins of undermining one of the central tenets of Christianity, saying: "Belief in a second coming is one of the prime statements of the faith."

Clive Calver, director of the Evangelical Alliance, said Dr Jenkins's views had "more to do with sanctified humanism than traditional Christian belief". He said: "Evangelicals have continually maintained that there is torment in hell. That is the biblical line. There are more than 200 references in scripture, outside Revelations, which indicate Christ's return. It is the traditional church doctrine.

"The truth is that Jesus is coming back. He has made his first trip to planet earth, and is going to make one more."



TED DITCHBURN

Dr Jenkins discussing on radio yesterday the furore that his views have caused

Martin Ivens, page 15
Woodrow Wyatt, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Top of the Pops turns 30 with a blast from the past

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

THE BBC is to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of *Top of the Pops* with a series of retrospective shows beginning on January 4. The anniversary programmes were unveiled yesterday as part of BBC television's winter schedules.

The comedians Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse will star as the "poptastic" disc jockeys Smashie and Nicey in *Top of the Pops Party*, which will feature archive material from three decades of rock and pop from the Rolling Stones to Take That.

The programme is Britain's longest-running chart-based show and has become a landmark in the history of the nation's youth culture, even though it has attracted fewer followers in recent years.

Top of the Pops started in 1964 in a deconsecrated church in Rusholme, Greater Manchester, with the disc jockey Jimmy Savile and guests Dusty Springfield, the Beatles and the Dave Clark Five. The programme, originally scheduled to run for six weeks, will also be celebrated in January in an anniversary edition of BBC1's *Pop Quiz* and *Digging the Dancing Queens*, a tribute to the dancers Pan's People.

The corporation hopes that its winter schedule will build on recent successes in quality drama and situation comedy and is planning a £164 million season including seven new dramas and four new comedies.

The centrepiece of BBC2's winter schedules is a six-part adaptation of George Eliot's *Middlemarch* by Andrew Davies, author of the screenplay for *To Play the King*. The series, set in the 1830s, stars Robert Hardy, Pam Ferris, Patrick Malahide, Juliet Aubrey and Douglas Hodge.

The comedian Lenny Henry makes his debut as writer and director in BBC2's *Funky Black Shorts*, a new season of ten-minute dramas featuring black writers.

BBC1 will also show a new series of the award-winning comedy *Absolutely Fabulous*, starring Joanna Lumley and Jennifer Saunders.

There will also be new series of the Edwardian fashion house saga *The House of Eliott*, the *Riff Raff Element* and a third and final series of *Love Hurts*, with Zoe Wanamaker and Adam Faith.

☐ The BBC is expected to offer its daytime television presenters Anne Diamond and Nick Owen new contracts to present the *Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick* show for a further five years. The news comes 24 hours after ITV announced that Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan had won a £1 million deal to host the rival *This Morning* for two years.

Up to two million people watch the ITV show each morning, but the BBC said that its show matched that figure at certain times during the programme.

100 best albums, page 3
Media, page 28



Savile: the first DJ on *Top of the Pops* in 1964

HOW COUNCIL TAX CHARGES WILL CHANGE AROUND THE COUNTRY

Authority	Non-pay est (%)	Band D to £88k	Band E to £120k	Band F to £160k	Band G to £320k	% Rise (-) to 1993
Inner London boroughs						
Camden (Lab)	10.0	652	797	941	1,086	(9.2)
Greenwich (Lab)	8.0	633	773	914	1,055	(19.2)
Hackney (Lab)	9.0	594	726	858	990	(15.0)
Hammersmith/Fulham (Lab)	8.0	586	716	846	976	6.8
Islington (Lab)	10.0	636	778	919	1,061	(8.7)
Kensington & Chelsea (C)	9.7	557	681	805	929	12.4
Lambeth (Lab/noc)	10.0	698	853	1,009	1,164	10.9
Lewisham(Lab)	7.0	558	682	806	930	8.2
Southwark (Lab)	13.0	658	805	951	1,097	5.5
Tower Hamlets(Lib)	6.0	463	566	669	772	(13.2)
Wandsworth (C)	4.0	510	624	737	850	13.7
Westminster (C)	5.0	399	488	577	665	35.3
Outer London boroughs						
Barking & Dagenham (Lab)	2.0	456	557	658	759	(9.6)
Barnet (C)	5.0	575	703	831	959	4.7
Bexley (C)	2.0	529	646	764	882	2.7
Brent (C/noc)	5.0	561	686	810	935	(6.1)
Bromley (C)	2.0	524	641	757	874	2.8
Croydon (C)	3.0	545	666	787	908	5.8
Ealing (C)	4.0	596	728	861	993	4.6
Enfield (C)	5.0	548	670	792	914	(6.7)
Haringey (Lab)	5.0	628	768	908	1,047	(13.5)
Harrow (C)	5.0	543	664	784	905	(1.8)
Havering (Lab/noc)	4.5	504	615	727	839	(5.9)
Hillingdon (Lab)	4.0	459	561	663	765	(12.5)
Hounslow (Lab)	5.0	570	696	823	949	(7.1)
Kingston uThames (C/noc)	2.0	589	720	851	982	12.6
Merton (Lab)	3.0	570	696	823	949	14.2
Newham (Lab)	5.0	426	521	616	710	(28.9)
Redbridge (C)	5.0	546	667	788	909	3.9
Richmond uThames (LD)	6.0	627	767	906	1,045	16.0
Sutton (LD)	3.0	529	647	765	882	1.7
Waltham Forest (Lab)	6.0	575	702	830	958	(2.5)
Metropolitan areas						
Greater Manchester						
Bolton (L)	2.5	663	810	957	1,104	11.1
Bury (L/noc)	2.0	604	739	873	1,007	(0.6)
Manchester (L)	6.0	732	894	1,057	1,220	(0.8)
Oldham (L)	3.0	677	828	978	1,129	8.6
Rochdale (LD/C)	3.0	677	828	979	1,129	1.9
Salford (L)	3.0	751	918	1,085	1,252	6.2
Stockport (C/L)	2.0	704	860	1,017	1,173	8.9
Tameside (L)	3.5	726	887	1,049	1,210	3.9
Trafford (C)	3.0	576	704	832	960	12.2
Wigan (L)	2.0	598	731	864	996	(8.1)
Merseyside						
Knowsley (L)	2.7	646	790	934	1,077	(4.0)
Liverpool (L/noc)	6.0	880	1,076	1,272	1,467	21.4
Sefton (noc)	4.0	648	792	935	1,079	4.0
St Helens (L)	4.0	679	829	980	1,131	10.3
Wirral (L/noc)	4.0	682	834	985	1,137	(1.2)
South Yorkshire						
Barnsley (L)	4.0	550	672	794	916	(8.4)
Doncaster (L)	4.0	509	622	735	848	(13.3)
Rotherham (L)	4.0	634	775	916	1,057	(8.9)
Sheffield (L)	4.0	595	728	860	992	(7.2)
Tyne and Wear						
Gateshead (L)	4.4	667	815	963	1,112	(4.2)
Newcastle (L)	3.8	681	832	984	1,135	(14.0)
North Tyneside (L)	3.1	669	818	967	1,116	(5.3)
South Tyneside (L)	3.0	625	764	903	1,042	(4.5)
Sunderland (L)	5.0	536	655	774	894	(10.6)
West Midlands						
Birmingham (L)	5.0	630	770	910	1,050	(4.1)
Coventry (L)	3.0	729	890	1,052	1,214	6.2
Dudley (L)	2.5	602	736	870	1,003	3.3
Sandwell (L)	7.0	710	868	1,026	1,184	16.2
Solihull (noc)	2.0	581	710	839	968	11.8
Walsall (C/LD)	4.6	534	653	772	891	(9.6)
Wolverhampton (C/LD)	2.0	649	793	938	1,082	17.1
West Yorkshire						
Bradford (L)	4.0	632	773	913	1,054	22.1
Calderdale (C/noc)	3.0	662	809	956	1,103	7.7
Kirklees (L)	3.8	729	891	1,052	1,214	15.9
Leeds (L)	5.0	585	715	845	975	(2.6)
Wakefield (L)	5.0	551	673	795	918	(15.1)
Shire areas						
Avon						
Bath (C/noc)	5.0	565	691	817	942	10.8
Bristol (L)	6.0	735	898	1,062	1,225	5.1
Kingswood (L)	1.9	618	756	893	1,031	5.8
Northavon (LD/noc)	4.0	631	771	911	1,051	2.6
Wansdyke (C/noc)	2.3	617	755	892	1,029	0.2
Woodspring (C)	5.6	643	786	929	1,072	7.3
Bedfordshire						
Luton (L)	5.0	553	676	799	922	8.1
Mid Bedfordshire (C)	3.5	496	606	718	826	(3.1)
Bedford (North Beds)(noc)	2.0	528	645	763	880	4.8
South Bedfordshire (C)	3.5	534	653	771	890	(1.1)
Berkshire						
Bracknell Forest (C)	0.7	525	641	758	874	1.0
Newbury (LD)	2.0	536	655	774	893	1.4
Reading (L)	1.5	588	719	849	980	(3.3)
Slough (L)	5.7	556	680	804	927	18.0
Windsor/Maidnhd (LD/Ind)	2.0	538	657	777	896	7.7
Wokingham (C)	0.5	550	672	794	916	(0.2)
Buckinghamshire						
Aylesbury Vale (C)	2.0	513	626	740	854	0.8
Chiltern (C)	2.0	494	603	713	823	(3.3)
Milton Keynes (LD/noc)	2.0	570	696	823	949	(1.8)
South Buckinghamshire (C)	1.4	461	563	666	768	(8.3)
Wycombe (C)	5.0	537	657	776	895	(9.6)
Cambridgeshire						
Cambridge (L)	3.0	551	673	796	918	(4.2)
East Cambridgeshire (Ind)	2.0	452	553	653	754	(1.5)
Fenland (C)	1.9	515	629	744	858	0.6
Huntingdonshire (C)	2.0	421	515	609	702	(2.8)
Peterborough (L/noc)	3.5	549	671	792	914	2.8
South Cambridgeshire (noc)	2.0	452	552	652	753	1.9
Cheshire						
Chester (C/noc)	3.5	630	770	910	1,050	3.2
Congleton (LD/C)	3.5	619	756	894	1,031	6.5
Crewe & Nantwich (L)	4.0	642	784	927	1,070	5.8
Ellesmere Port & Neston (L)	2.5	652	797	942	1,087	5.8
Halton (L)	5.0	629	769	909	1,049	(2.4)
Macclesfield (C)	2.0	616	753	890	1,027	4.6
Vale Royal (L)	3.0	622	760	898	1,036	(1.2)
Warrington (L)	3.0	635	776	917	1,058	8.6
Cleveland						
Hartlepool (L)	4.0	744	909	1,075	1,240	13.6
Langbaurgh-on-Tees (L/noc)	4.0	691	845	998	1,152	1.3
Middlesbrough (L)	4.0	708	865	1,023	1,180	11.1
Stockton-on-Tees (L/noc)	3.2	652	796	941	1,086	3.4
Cornwall						
Caradon (Ind)	2.0	538	657	776	896	(3.4)
Carrick (noc)	3.0	575	703	831	959	(1.7)
Kerrier (LD/noc)	3.0	571	698	824	951	(0.3)
North Cornwall (noc)	2.0	542	662	782	903	(0.9)
Penwith (noc)	3.0	589	720	851	982	8.6
Restormel (LD)	3.0	530	648	766	884	(3.4)
Cumbria						
Allerdale (L)	3.5	613	749	885	1,021	6.8
Barrow-in-Furness (C/noc)	3.0	705	861	1,018	1,174	1.0
Carlisle (L)	4.0	682	833	984	1,136	9.5
Copeland (L)	4.5	654	799	944	1,089	7.6
Eden (noc)	2.0	620	757	895	1,033	3.9
South Lakeland (C/Ind)	3.0	637	779	920	1,062	4.8
Derbyshire						
Amber Valley (L)	3.0	603	737	871	1,005	0.9
Bolsover (L)	2.0	592	723	855	987	(3.2)
Chesterfield (L)	2.5	609	745	880	1,015	(3.4)
Derby (C/noc)	3.0	605	739	873	1,008	3.8
Derbyshire Dales (C)	2.0	609	745	880	1,016	1.2
Erewash (L)	3.0	610	746	882	1,017	2.5
High Peak (noc)	2.0	622	760	898	1,036	1.5
North East Derbyshire (L)	2.0	577	706	834	962	(8.7)
South Derbyshire (L)	2.0	602	736	870	1,003	1.8
Devon						
East Devon (C)	2.0	548	670	791	913	10.3
Exeter (L/noc)	2.0	544	665	786	907	0.2
Mid Devon (Ind)	2.0	567	692	818	944	4.2
North Devon (LD)	2.0	554	677	800	923	3.3
Plymouth (L)	9.8	637	779	920	1,062	12.8
South Hams (C)	2.0	552	675	798	920	12.0
Teignbridge (noc)	3.5	569	696	822	949	2.8
Torbay (LD)	5.0	571	698	825	952	6.5
Torridge (noc)	4.0	553	676	799	922	5.6
West Devon (noc)	5.0	560	685	809	934	4.1
Durham						
Bournemouth (LD/noc)	3.0	550	672	794	916	9.1
Christchurch (C)	2.0	520	636	752	867	5.8
East Dorset (C)	2.0	526	643	760	877	2.2
North Dorset (Ind)	2.0	538	658	777	897	16.1
Poole (LD)	2.0	535	653	772	891	11.0
Purbeck (noc)	2.1	536	655	774	893	10.5
West Dorset (noc)	2.0	496	606	716	826	(1.6)
Weymouth & Portland (noc)	2.0	555	679	802	925	3.7
Durham						
Chester-le-Street (L)	3.0	549	671	793	914	(5.0)
Darlington (L)	3.5	582	711	841	970	(1.1)
Derwentside (L)	3.0	636	778	919	1,061	(9.6)
Durham (L)	2.0	537	657	776	895	(4.2)
Easington (L)	3.0	544	664	785	906	(14.2)
Sedgefield (L)	2.0	528	646	763	881	(5.9)
Teesdale (Ind)	2.0	537	656	775	895	(6.3)
Wear Valley (LD)	2.0	620	758	896	1,034	(1.4)
East Sussex						
Brighton (L)	5.0	598	731	864	997	11.7
Eastbourne (LD)	5.0	620	758	895	1,033	4.8
Hastings (noc)	5.0	614	751	887	1,024	14.5
Hove (C)	4.0	575	703	830	958	9.5
Lewes (LD)	5.0	550	672	795	917	1.8
Rother (noc)	3.0	556	680	804	927	1.0
Wealden (C)	3.0	557	680	804	928	1.5
Essex						
Basildon (C)	4.0	603	737	871	1,005	(8.2)
Braintree (noc)	4.0	505	617	729	841	(4.1)
Brentwood (LD)	2.0	451	551	652	752	(10.1)
Castle Point (C)	9.0	594	726	858	991	(1.9)
Chelmsford (C)	2.0	506	618	730	843	(6.2)
Colchester (LD)	2.0	485	593	701	808	(9.7)
Epping Forest (C)	4.0	493	603	712	822	(7.1)
Harlow (L)	5.0	632	772	913	1,053	(12.8)
Maldon (C/noc)	4.0	491	600	709	818	(5.0)
Rochford (noc)	2.0	483	591	698	805	(4.5)
Southend-on-Sea (C)	5.0	524	640	756	873	1.3
Tendring (LD/noc)	3.0	508	621	733	846	(4.3)
Thurrock (L)	5.0	547	668	789	911	(0.5)
Uttlesford (C)	5.0	491	600	709	819	(7.1)
Gloucestershire						
Cheltenham (LD)	5.0	595	727	859	992	11.4
Cotswold (Ind)	3.0	566	692	817	943	3.3
Forest of Dean (L)	5.0	613	750	886	1,022	7.1
Gloucester (L/LD)	4.0	580	708	837	966	9.6
Stroud (C/noc)	3.0	623	762	900	1,039	7.3
Tewkesbury (noc)	4.0	473	578	683	789	12.9
Hampshire						
Basingstoke & Deane (C)	2.0	449	549	649	748	2.1
East Hampshire (LD/noc)	1.4	459	561	663	765	(4.1)
Eastleigh (C/noc)	2.0	473	578	683	788	(3.7)
Fareham (C)	2.0	467	570	674	778	5.1
Gosport (LD)	4.0	493	603	712	822	0.2
Hart (noc)	2.0	462	565	668	771	(1.1)
Havant (noc)	4.0	496	606	716	827	(4.3)
New Forest (LD)	2.0	447	546	646	745	(3.7)
Portsmouth (L/LD)	5.0	476	581	687	793	4.6
Rushmoor (C)	2.2	467	571	674	778	2.6
Southampton (L)	5.0	492	601	701	819	4.9
Test Valley (C)	3.5	430	526	622	717	(3.6)
Winchester (noc)	1.8	446	545	644	743	(2.7)
Hereford & Worcester						
Bromsgrove (C)	2.0	515	630	745	859	1.2
Hereford (LD)	2.0	486	594	702	810	(2.3)
Leominster (Ind/noc)	3.0	538	658	777	897	5.6
Malvern Hills (noc)	2.0	534	653	771	890	1.4
Redditch (L)	1.0	572	700	827	954	2.4
South Herefordshire (Ind)	2.0	503	615	727	838	3.9
Worcester (L)	3.0	564	690	815	940	2.4
Wychavon (C)	4.5	530	648	766	883	2.3
Wyre Forest (L/noc)	2.0	562	687	812	937	1.7
Hertfordshire						
Broxbourne (C)	2.0	481	588	694	801	(8.9)
Dacorum (C)	3.0	512	626	740	854	(0.3)
East Hertfordshire (C)	2.0	495	605	715	824	(7.5)
Hertsmere (C)	3.0	500	611	722	833	(7.0)
North Hertfordshire (C)	3.0	514	628	742	856	(1.6)
St Albans (noc)	3.5	527	645	762	879	(0.7)
Stevenage (L)	4.0	586	716	846	977	(3.3)
Three Rivers (C/noc)	1.7	532	651	769	887	(6.9)
Watford (L)	3.5	613	750	886	1,022	7.5
Welwyn Hatfield (C)	4.0	567	681	805	929	(8.9)
Humberside						
Beverley (C)	2.0	642	785	928	1,070	6.8
Boothferry (C)	2.0	656	801	947	1,093	9.2
Cleethorpes (noc)	5.0	736	899	1,063	1,226	9.4
East Yorkshire (Ind/noc)	2.0	654	800	945	1,090	17.2
Glanford (C/noc)	0.5	618	755	892	1,029	(0.0)
Great Grimsby (L)	2.0	694	848	1,003	1,157	1.3
Holderness (Ind)	2.0	619	756	894	1,031	2.4
Kingston upon Hull (L)	3.5	685	838	990	1,142	8.1
Scunthorpe (L)	2.0	645	789	932	1,075	(1.2)
Isle of Wight						
Medina (noc)	3.0	558	681	805	929	3.7
South Wight (LD)	1.5	534	653	772	891	(4.0)
Kent						
Ashford (C)	1.5	524	640	757	873	6.1
Canterbury (noc)	2.0	533	651	769	888	(2.3)
Dartford	2.0	530	647	765	883	(1.9)
Dover (noc)	2.0	553	676	799	922	2.6
Gillingham (noc)	5.0	556	679	803	927	10.1
Gravesend (C/noc)	2.0	530	647	765	883	11.3
Maidstone (noc)	2.0	576	704	832	960	5.3
Rochester u Medway (L/noc)	2.0	531	649	767	884	6.1
Sevenoaks	2.0	496	606	716	827	(5.9)
Shepway (LD)	2.0	567	692	818	944	1.7
Swale (C/noc)	2.0	523	640	756	872	6.3
Thanet (C)	3.0	563	688	814	939	6.6
Tonbridge & Malling (C)	2.0	529	647	765	882	0.2
Tunbridge Wells (C)	2.5	541	662	782	902	4.4
Lancashire						
Blackburn (L)	4.0	708	865	1,023	1,180	14.0
Blackpool (L)	5.1	686	837	989	1,142	5.4
Burnley (L)	4.5	688	840	993	1,146	9.6
Chorley (L/noc)	2.0	634	774	915	1,056	3.4
Fylde (noc)	3.6	645	789	932	1,076	8.2
Hyndburn (L)	3.0	699	854	1,009	1,165	10.2
Lancaster (noc)	3.0	645	788	931	1,075	4.8
Pendle (L)	4.0	699	854	1,009	1,164	6.8
Preston (L)	5.0	702	857	1,013	1,169	7.5
Ribble Valley (C)	2.3	635	776	916	1,059	5.0
Rossendale (L)	2.0	704	860	1,016	1,173	5.0
South Ribble	3.0	646	789	933	1,076	6.9
West Lancashire (noc)	5.0	644	787	930	1,073	5.2
Wyre (C)	3.0	632	772	913	1,053	4.9
Leicestershire						
Blaby (C)	4.0	532	650	769	887	8.6
Charnwood (C)	3.0	548	669	791	913	0.2
Harborough (noc)	3.0	554	677	800	923	7.3
Hinckley & Bosworth (C)	2.0	475	580	685	791	10.0
Leicester (L)	3.1	621	759	897	1,035	(4.6)
Melton (C)	2.0	541	661	781	901	7.1
North West Leicestershire (L)	4.0	546	667	789	910	5.3
Oadby & Wigston (LD)	3.0	588	719	849	980	9.9
Rutland (noc)	2.0	552	674	797	919	6.6
Lincolnshire						
Boston (noc)	3.0	564	690	815	940	7.6
East Lindsey (Ind)	2.0	524	641	757	874	8.3
Lincoln (L)	5.0	551	674	798	919	5.0
North Kesteven (noc)	1.0	525	642	759	875	1.5
South Holland (Ind)	2.0	568	694	820	946	12.8
South Kesteven (noc)	0.0	532	650	768	886	4.6
West Lindsey (noc)	2.0	542	663	783	903	2.2
Norfolk						
Breckland (C)	3.0	501	612	723	835	(0.3)
Broadland (C)	2.0	500	611	722	834	(1.1)
Great Yarmouth (L)	4.0	553	676	799	922	6.5
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	3.0	531	649	767	885	4.7
North Norfolk (C/Ind)	2.6	503	615	727	839	1.6
Norwich (L)	5.0	583	712	842	971	(2.2)
South Norfolk (noc)	2.0	507	619	732	845	(0.1)
Northamptonshire						
Corby (L)	2.0	573	701	828	955	9.6
Daventry (C)	3.0	563	689	814	939	9.7
East Northamptonshire (C)	0.9	574	702	830	957	15.3
Kettering (noc)	5.0	593	725	857	989	15.0
Northampton (L/noc)	8.0	627	767	906	1,046	15.6
South Northamptonshire (C)	3.0	568	694	820	946	5.7
Wellingborough (C)	3.0	316	386	456	526	29.1
Northumberland						
Alnwick (LD)	2.0	575	703	831	959	(5.7)
Berwick-upon-Tweed (noc)	2.0	550	673	795	917	(5.6)
Blyth Valley (L)	2.0	608	744	879	1,014	(10.0)
Castle Morpeth (noc)	2.3	591	723	854	986	(7.8)
Tynedale (noc)	2.0	587	718	848	979	(6.2)
Wansbeck (L)	2.0	630	769	909	1,049	(9.0)
North Yorkshire						
Craven (noc)	3.0	533	651	770	888	4.1
Hambleton (C)	2.5	524	641	757	874	23.1
Harrogate (LD)	2.0	580	709	837	966	0.1
Richmondshire (Ind)	2.0	525	642	759	875	5.0
Ryedale (LD)	2.0	512	626	740	853	6.6
Scarborough (noc)	5.0	540	661	781	901	8.5
Selby (C/noc)	4.0	520	636	751	867	1.6
York (L)	3.0	560	684	809	933	8.4
Nottinghamshire						
Ashfield (L)	3.0	591	723	854	985	(0.7)
Bassetlaw (L)	3.0	623	761	899	1,038	3.4
Broxtowe (C)	3.0	640	782	924	1,066	11.0
Gedling (C)	3.0	649	794	938	1,082	9.1
Mansfield (L)	5.0	680	831	983	1,134	0.4
Newark & Sherwood (L)	3.3	631	771	911	1,051	(0.0)
Nottingham (L)	5.0	692	846	999	1,153	9.7
Rushcliffe (C)	2.0	595	727	860	992	4.4
Oxfordshire						
Cherwell (C)	5.0	498	609	720	830	(0.5)
Oxford (L)	0.0	557	680	804	928	(5.3)
South Oxfordshire (C)	3.0	502	614	725	837	(11.9)
Vale of White Horse	3.0	472	577	682	787	(7.4)
West Oxfordshire (noc)	5.0	486	594	703	811	(1.0)
Shropshire						
Bridgnorth (noc)	3.0	533	652	770	889	1.6
North Shropshire (Ind)	3.0	550	673	795	917	(1.6)
Oswestry (Ind)	5.0	553	675	798	921	4.4
Shrewsbury & Atcham (noc)	3.5	547	669	790	912	1.7
South Shropshire (Ind)	2.0	548	669	791	913	4.3
The Wrekin (L)	4.0	602	736	870	1,003	(6.7)
Somerset						
Mendip (LD/noc)	3.5	562	687	812	937	3.8
Sedgemoor (C)	3.0	547	668	790	911	0.5
South Somerset (LD)	2.0	556	680	803	927	(0.6)
Taunton Deane (LD)	3.1	496	606	716	827	(0.1)
West Somerset (Ind)	3.0	567	693	819	945	10.0
Staffordshire						
Cannock Chase (L)	2.0	584	714	844	974	1.8
East Staffordshire (L/noc)	3.5	551	673	796	918	5.8
Lichfield (C)	1.0	486	594	702	809	(4.0)
Newcastle-under-Lyme (L)	2.5	553	676	799	922	1.5
South Staffordshire (C)	2.0	441	539	637	735	(9.2)
Stafford (noc)	1.0	515	630	744	859	(0.2)
Staffords Moorlands (noc)	2.5	543	664	785	905	(1.8)
Stoke-on-Trent (L)	6.0	597	729	862	994	6.2
Tamworth (L)	3.0	502	614	725	837	(1.0)
Suffolk						
Babergh (noc)	2.0	513	627	740	854	7.3
Forest Heath (noc)	3.0	534	653	772	891	16.1
Ipswich (L)	5.0	668	817	965	1,114	5.7
Mid Suffolk (C/Ind)	1.0	526	642	759	876	8.9
St Edmundsbury (C)	1.5	534	653	771	890	6.9
Suffolk Coastal (C)	2.5	568	695	821	947	15.4
Waveney (L)	1.9	563	688	813	938	14.1
Surrey						
Elmbridge (Res/noc)	3.0	593	725	856	988	(2.3)
Epsom & Ewell (Res)	2.0	531	649	767	885	1.2
Guildford (noc)	2.0	535	654	773	892	(3.4)
Mole Valley (noc)	2.0	510	623	737	850	(1.7)
Reigate & Banstead (C/noc)	2.0	546	668	789	911	(0.6)
Runnymede (C)	2.0	458	560	662	764	(2.5)
Spelthorne (C)	2.0	526	642	759	876	(0.5)
Surrey Heath (C)	1.0	519	634	750	865	(2.2)
Tandridge (noc)	2.0	547	669	790	912	0.3
Waverley (LD/noc)	2.0	525	641	758	875	(2.4)
Woking (C)	2.0	537	658	776	895	0.8
Warwickshire						
North Warwickshire (L)	5.0	669	818	966	1,115	1.3
Nuneaton & Bedworth (L)	3.0	670	819	968	1,117	1.8
Rugby (noc)	3.0	622	761	899	1,037	8.2
Stratford-on-Avon (C)	3.0	574	701	829	956	(0.5)
Warwick (C)	3.0	588	719	849	980	1.8
West Sussex						
Adur (LD)	3.0	555	678	801	924	(4.0)
Arun (C)	2.0	511	625	739	852	(4.6)
Chichester (C)	3.0	482	589	696	803	3.8
Crawley (L)	2.5	520	635	751	866	(4.5)
Horsham (C)	1.5	485	593	701	808	1.7
Mid Sussex (C)	3.0	475	580	686	791	(4.3)
Worthing (C)	4.0	526	643	760	877	0.6
Wiltshire						
Kennet (noc)	2.0	514	628	742	857	4.8
North Wiltshire (LD)	2.0	550	672	794	918	3.7
Salisbury (C)	2.0	491	601	710	819	(0.4)
Thamesdown (L)	4.0	579	707	836	964	4.5
West Wiltshire (LD)	2.0	548	670	792	914	2.8
Isles of Scilly (Ind)	2.0	173	211	249	288	(54.2)

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DECEMBER 15 1993

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ı the past

EDIA CORRESPONDENT

makes his dem... director in ... Black Sham... ...en-minute ... black writers
BBC1 will ... series of the ... comedy Absolutely Fabulous starring Joanna ... Jennifer Saunders
There will ... of the Edwardian ... house saga The House of Elliott, the R... and a third ... Love Hurts ... maker and ... The BBC ... its daytime ... ers Anne Diam... Owen new ... the Good ... Anne ... further ... comes 24 ... announced ... Madden ... had ... host the ... for ... Up ... watch ... morning ... that ... figure ... the pro...

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CONSIDERABLY LESS DAUNTING TO SWALLOW THAN



A PLEASURE IN EVERY SENSE.

A DOZEN MARENNES OYSTERS.

Matrix Churchill prosecution 'ludicrous and improbable'

Clark blames Customs for collapsed arms trial

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE attempt by Customs officials to prosecute Matrix Churchill executives for exporting prohibited goods to Iraq was "ludicrous and improbable", Alan Clark, the former trade and defence minister, said yesterday.

But Mr Clark admitted that he was negligent in failing to inform Customs officials that he knew machine tools were going to Iraqi armaments factories when he was interviewed 15 months before the Old Bailey trial.

Revealing deep divisions between Whitehall departments over the decision to press ahead with the Matrix Churchill prosecution, Mr Clark told Lord Justice Scott's enquiry into the arms-to-Iraq affair that there was not "any justification for it".

"I still consider it ludicrous and highly improbable," he said. "It was long after the event. I didn't see what damage had actually been done. I didn't see any deterrent effect this was going to have on others. I didn't really see any justification for it."

The £3 million Old Bailey trial of the three Matrix Churchill executives, Paul Henderson, Trevor Abraham, and Peter Allen, collapsed in November 1992 after Geoffrey Robinson QC, counsel for the defence, obtained the release of 500 pages of secret Government documents proving that the Government knew of and encouraged the trade in breach of it's own arms export guidelines.

Mr Clark vigorously rejected allegations that he had adopted a "nudge-nudge wink-wink" approach when advising the machine tool industry how to get their equipment through the export licensing regime.

The enquiry heard how he met representatives of the Machine Tool Technologies Association (MTTA), including Mr Henderson, in January 1988, after £37 million worth of machine tool export licences had been frozen by trade officials.

The export licences had been frozen because secret intelligence reports revealed that the equipment was destined for Iraqi armaments factories where they would be used to make missiles and shells. But Whitehall had already decided to let the equipment go, to protect an intelligence source reporting on Iraqi procurement activities, which he could not disclose at the meeting, Mr Clark said.

"There was an absurd paradox here. The intelligence was telling us what the machines were going to be used for. But the machines had to be supplied to ensure the safety of the source who was telling you what the use of the machines were." Mr Clark said he thought the intelligence source was an Iraqi mole. In never dawned on him that it was a British businessman employed by Matrix Churchill, he said. During the meeting Mr Clark gave the companies the impression that everything would be done to prevent the exports from being stopped, in the knowledge that the battle had already been won. "I had to indulge in a fiction and invite them to participate in that fiction," he said.

Asked by Lord Justice Scott whether his attitude would have been interpreted by the companies as a sign that the Government did not mind what the equipment was being used for, Mr Clark insisted that at no time did he give them "a nod and a wink".

At the meeting the machine tools were referred to as being used for "general engineering purposes". Mr Clark said that it would have been "fine" for the firms to continue using such a heading on future applications. It was up to officials to decide if they could be used to make weapons. "If any department is so gullible as to say 'general engineering — that's all right', that is ludicrous," he said. "That predicates a level of incompetence I find astonishing."

Mr Clark told the enquiry that his officials failed to show him the detailed intelligence reports which showed that the machine tools would be used by the Iraqis to manufacture "fin stabilisers for 155mm shells". Had he know this he might have taken a different attitude towards the frozen licences.

Questioned about the statement he gave to Customs officials in July 1991, which was one of the documents used to mount the Matrix Churchill prosecution, Mr Clark admitted that he was negligent in not pointing out that he knew that the machine tool exports had a military application.

He added, however: "You are entitled to assume that this knowledge is reasonably widely disseminated above a certain level. The autonomy of the Customs [to mount prosecutions] is a perpetual mystery. But one would have thought they were under an obligation to acquaint themselves with the facts."



Enquiry exposes whirring cogs of Whitehall engine

The Scott enquiry into the Iraqi arms affair has become like of one those big cutaway books for children which are now such bestsellers. After Inside a Submarine and Inside a Jumbo Jet, we now have Inside Whitehall. Little figures are shown busily working away in the various rooms of a great palace, with no apparent connection between what each is doing.

In the basement are the intelligence agencies, gathering and guarding information with what Alan Clark has decribed as "obsessional possessiveness". Further up are civil servants defending their departmental interests via statements of flexible vagueness. On the next floor are ministers trying to avoid saying anything which exposes them to criticism in the great hall, known as the House of Commons, "a volatile place, full of rows and scenes" whose occupants were regarded as "a bit of a nuisance", according to Mr Clark. Then in the grandest room of all sits the Prime Minister, all-powerful but apparently unaware of changes in the application of a key policy.

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

That is the picture presented in recent weeks by the witnesses to the enquiry, and in particular by Baroness Thatcher and Mr Clark. Any errors, on this view, have been of omission rather than of commission, failures of communication in Whitehall. It is unfortunate that the intelligence services and certain officials did not pass on key information which, if it had been known, might have resulted in different decisions being taken. It might have been better if a minister, or even MPs, had been informed, but there was a misunderstanding.

The fog of Whitehall seems like the opening of *Bleak House*. That is immediately suspect to the conspiracy buffs. They — and Lord Justice Scott himself and Presiley Baxendale, his counsel, in their questioning — are inherently dubious about loose ends, officials not talking to each other and unexplained delays. Lady Thatcher did not satisfy this school with her failure to remember, or even to have seen, some key documents: "If I had seen every copy of every minute when I was in Government, I would have been in a snowstorm."

The Thatcher/Clark picture cannot be dismissed out of hand. Decisions on exports to Iraq were seldom more than a small part of any minister's day. Every large organisation has inter-departmental rivalries. There may be no grand conspiracy, no new Watergate or even Iran-Contra affair. The guidelines on arms sales were not legally binding. But as in the bureaucratic mazes of a Le Carre novel, it was not all well-intentioned slip-ups.

The attitudes of many officials, and a few ministers, have been shown to be patronising and devious. Truth is a convenience, not an absolute, something to be manipulated to mislead MPs, though never by outright lying. Mr Clark's reference to *Alice in Wonderland* may do no favours to William Waldegrave, but it is apt.

There is always a danger of regarding such affairs as typical of the way Government works rather than exceptional. Admittedly, the Iraq arms affair is highly unusual. But many ministers and officials have a cynical attitude towards the Commons on other matters. I can't wait for the next cutaway book, on how the Budget was decided.

PETER RIDDELL

"I BELIEVE IN FREE MARKETS BUT ONLY WHEN THEY ARE BOTH FAIR AND FREE...THE MARKET IS NEITHER FREE NOR FAIR AND ACTION IS NEEDED NOW!"
Mark Tennant, Scottish Fish Farmer, December 1993

"The industry is staring bankruptcy in the face with the volume of Norwegian dumping"

"We cannot allow our Highlands and Islands Salmon farmers to feel that they are getting more support from the Irish Government than our own."
Mark Tennant, Stornoway Gazette & West Coast Advertiser, 27 November 1993


MARK TENNANT
Prospective Tory Eurocandidate for the Highlands & Islands

"THIS IS A SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL ISSUE WHICH REQUIRES FIRM ACTION BY THE UK GOVERNMENT"
Mark Tennant, Stornoway Gazette & West Coast Advertiser, 27 November 1993

THIS MAN IS RIGHT - the 6000 people in Scotland who will lose their jobs demand that the Government take firm action - NOW.

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Labour ambushes Major

BY JILL SHERMAN AND ROBERT MORGAN

JOHN Smith yesterday launched an all-out attack on Government waste as he urged his backbenchers to sustain Labour's guerrilla warfare tactics in the Commons well into the New Year.

The Labour Leader sent a letter to all Opposition backbenchers last night making it clear that he intended to keep up the policy of non-co-operation until the Government showed some respect for parliamentary rights.

In one wrecking tactic yesterday Mr Smith, Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, and several frontbenchers turned up for the Scottish Grand Committee, forcing an embarrassing Government defeat on a routine vote.

Bruce Grocott, Labour MP for The Wrekin has submitted written questions to all ministers asking how much their departments spend on press and publicity.

In the Commons Mr Smith condemned the "disgraceful" NHS spending on increased bureaucracy and glossy public relations, claiming that spending "is totally out of control". Mr Smith demanded to know why £200,000 had been spent on changing the name of the NHS supplies authority. John Major countered that administration accounted for only 2 per cent of total costs.

Later Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West, accused the prime minister of spending £292,000 on renovations at 10 Downing Street. Mr Major reminded Mr Banks that as chairman of the Greater London Council he had arrived in the Commons in a chauffeur-driven car paid for by the ratepayers.

After the Government decision last week to "guillotine" two social security bills — one cutting state support for sick pay and the other raising national insurance contributions by 1 per cent — Mr Smith announced that all relations with the Government would be broken off and "pairing" facilities withdrawn.

Tony Newton, Leader of the House, last night opened the debate on the "guillotine timetable", which cuts debate to one day for each bill, by insisting that the measures had to be rushed so that they could be implemented in April. Margaret Beckett, Labour's deputy Leader, accused the Government of "deceit, incompetence and cowardice", claiming that every penny of the £750 million which would be saved would come from workers' pay packets.

Richard Shepherd, Tory MP for Aldridge-Brownhills, also attacked the Government's move, claiming that party business managers were introducing guillotines "on an executive whim". Between 1945 and 1975 there had been 30 guillotines, but since Mr Major had become Prime Minister three years ago there had been 18.

Peers fight for student unions

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Government's Education Bill is heading for disaster in the Lords because of concern over restrictions on student union spending.

A formidable coalition of Labour, Liberal Democrat, cross-bench and Tory rebel peers is forming to block clause 20 of the bill, which grants the Education Secretary powers to prevent certain student activities being subsidised by the taxpayer.

Baroness Perry of Southwark, the Vice Chancellor of South Bank University and Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn, the Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, have tabled an amendment aimed at striking clause 20 from the bill. A strongly worded report from the Lords Select Committee on The Scrutiny of Delegated Powers yesterday urged peers to consider clause 20 with care.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign Office. Proceedings on the Statutory Sick Pay Bill.
Lords (2.30): Debate on the Falklands investigation.

GOOD NEWS FOR CARDHOLDERS

REDUCTION OF INTEREST RATE

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc is pleased to announce that the monthly rate of interest charged to its Access, Visa and Affinity MasterCard cardholders will be reduced from 1.69% to 1.59% per month (equivalent to an annual percentage of 22.0%) with effect from 1 January 1994.
From that date the new rate will be applied to all interest-bearing balances, cash advances and purchases attracting interest for the first time.
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Rustlers put bird breeders in a flap

BY BILL FROST

BUDGERIGAR breeders were given a warning yesterday that rings of professional rustlers were at work stealing prize birds to order.

Earlier this week a dozen breeding pairs, insured for £30,000, were taken from an aviary in Stowmarket, Suffolk. Police believe the birds may have been shipped across the Channel or further afield. Suspicion has fallen on South American breeders jealous of the success achieved by their British counterparts in recent championships. However, domestic rivalries have not been discounted.

Last month thieves escaped with a dozen prize birds after a midnight raid on an aviary in Calderwood, East Kilbride. Alan Crook, general secretary of the Budgerigar Society, advised breeders last night to improve security. "They should be on the alert because we are dealing with sophisticated and sinister professionals. These people know what to look for and there is big money involved."

Skulduggery has long been associated with the world of budgerigar breeding. Top birds fetch good prices and rivalry has never been keener. Unscrupulous or jealous breeders will stoop to almost any stunt to dish their rivals.

Mr Crook said: "Do not underestimate the lure of the budgie. Imagine the plight of the real enthusiast. You spend 20 years building up your aviary, then someone comes along and steals the prize birds — the bottom drops out of your world."

Grenville Norris, the Suffolk breeder robbed earlier this week, said: "It's 45 years of work ruined just because of jealousy." He is convinced his budgies — among them two much-admired sky blue cocks and a cobalt hen — were chosen after they won the top awards at a Doncaster show last month.



A cock that was bred by Grenville Norris

JOHN MANNING



A visitor to London comparing mistletoe. The bunch on the left, bought in Chelsea, cost £5; the other was £1.50 at Leather Lane market

'Tis the season to be price-wary

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

CHRISTMAS rip-offs await the unwary with the prices of trees, mistletoe and holly at some specialist garden centres up to three times higher than supermarkets.

About five million Christmas trees, worth more than £50 million, are expected to be sold this year and prices vary widely. High earnings for Britain's 1,000 growers are assured because imports are expected to slump from 1.5 million to 750,000 due to a shortage of trees in Denmark, a traditional supplier.

The most popular tree is the Norway spruce, despite its tendency to shed needles if it is not mounted in water. The British Christmas Tree Growers Association says that a 6ft-7ft tree is selling for between £10 and £15 on average.

Shoppers at The Chelsea Gardener in London are paying £22.95 for a 7ft Norway spruce. At Clifton Nurseries in Little Venice, another leading metropolitan retailer, a similar tree costs £21.50. At the other end of the spectrum, the B&Q chain is offering Norway spruces at £6.99 each, ranging in size from 5ft to 7ft, while at the Oak Tree Nursery, near Warfield, Berkshire, a 5ft spruce costs £5 and a 7ft version £8.50.

Martin Whitaker, the general manager of The Chelsea Gardener, said: "We are more expensive, but we are offering our customers top-quality trees that have perfect shape and bushiness. We have to transport the trees into London, and staff and rent costs here are high. Our staff sometimes spend as much as an hour advising an individual customer."

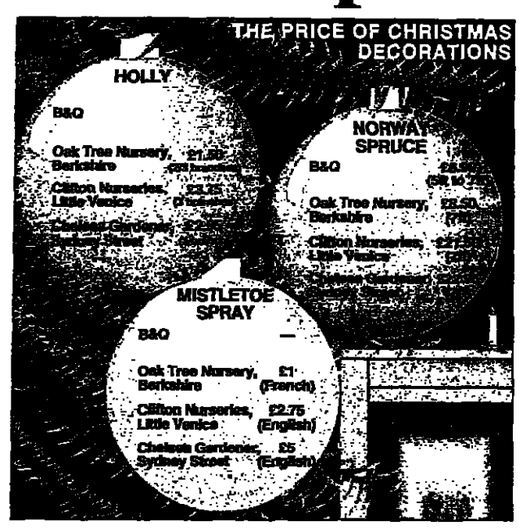
One of the company's main suppliers is Yattendon Forestry in Berkshire, which supplies Christmas trees in three grades of quality and charges a wholesale price of just under £10, including VAT, for a top-of-the-range 7ft Norway spruce. Christopher Hood, who runs the Yattendon estate, said: "A doubling of the wholesale price is not uncommon for a top London retailer. You can get much cheaper trees, but there is no guarantee of grade or quality. You might get a reasonable tree if you get in early, but it is pretty much pot luck."

Mistletoe is equally variable in price. The Chelsea Gardener charges between £5 and £8 depending on the size of the sprig, while the Leather Lane market in central London offers a large bunch for £1.50. Nurseries in the country are selling sprigs for as little as £1 each.

Mr Whitaker said that his high price was justified. "Much of the mistletoe sold in Britain comes from France, is picked too early, often yellowish in colour and disintegrates when you take it out of its box. Most of ours is grown in England and even if you shake it the berries still stay on."

Mistletoe grows more profusely in France because there are many more suitable host trees in the countryside. Nine-tenths of the mistletoe sold in Britain each Christmas is imported from France, much of it coming from cider apple orchards and poplar plantations on country estates, which contract gathering rights to local foresters or estate workers.

Alan Coren, page 16



BRADFORD & BINGLEY'S NEW RATES OF INTEREST EFFECTIVE FROM 16TH DECEMBER 1993

Account		Amount Invested	Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.
Timesaver		£1+	0.50	0.38
		£250+	0.85	0.64
		£1,000+	1.85	1.39
Maximiser First Choice		£50+	1.75	1.31
(Including bonus)		£500+	4.00	3.00
		£3,000+	4.55	3.41
		£10,000+	5.00	3.75
Maximiser Special Asset		£5,000+	5.20	3.90
		£10,000+	6.20	4.65
		£20,000+	6.70	5.03
		£40,000+	6.95	5.21
	(Income)	£5,000+	5.00	3.75
	(Income)	£10,000+	6.05	4.54
	(Income)	£20,000+	6.50	4.88
	(Income)	£40,000+	6.75	5.06
Maximiser Fixed Reserve 2			6.00	4.50
	(Income)		5.75	4.31
Maximiser Classic II TESSA†			5.75	–
Maximiser High-Return II TESSA†			6.75	–
Maximiser High-Return II TESSA Feeder			6.75	5.06
Premier Deposit		£100+	1.50	1.13
		£10,000+	4.70	3.53
		£25,000+	5.45	4.09

ACCOUNTS NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW INVESTORS

Account		Amount Invested	Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.
Maximiser Income		£1,000+	3.05	2.29
		£5,000+	3.95	2.96
Maximiser Growth		£5,000+	4.05	3.04
Maximiser Top Rate		£25,000+	4.65	3.49
	(Income)	£25,000+	4.45	3.34
Maximiser Bonus (Incl. full bonus)		£1,000+	3.95	2.96
		£10,000+	4.95	3.71
Maximiser Option 1		£2,500+	3.50	2.63
Option 1	(Income)	£2,500+	3.45	2.59
Maximiser Option 3		£2,500+	4.05	3.04
Option 3	(Income)	£2,500+	3.95	2.96
Maximiser Option 6		£2,500+	5.15	3.86
Option 6	(Income)	£2,500+	5.00	3.75
Maximiser Vintage Bond Issue 1		£5,000+	6.50	4.88
		£25,000+	7.00	5.25
	(Income)	£5,000+	6.50	4.88
	(Income)	£25,000+	6.75	5.06
Maximiser Vintage Bond Issue 2		£5,000+	6.50	4.88
		£25,000+	7.00	5.25
	(Income)	£5,000+	6.30	4.73
	(Income)	£25,000+	6.75	5.06
Maximiser Vintage Bond Issue 3		£5,000+	6.50	4.88
		£25,000+	7.00	5.25
		£50,000+	7.25	5.44
		£100,000+	7.40	5.55
	(Income)	£5,000+	6.30	4.73
	(Income)	£25,000+	6.75	5.06
	(Income)	£50,000+	6.95	5.21
	(Income)	£100,000+	7.10	5.33
Maximiser Fixed Reserve 1 (Matured)				
		£50+	1.00	0.75
		£500+	3.25	2.44
		£3,000	3.80	2.85
		£10,000+	4.25	3.19
Premium Access (Issue II)		£1+	2.00	1.50
Extra Interest & Extra Income		£1+	2.00	1.50
High Income		£1,000+	3.45	2.59
High Interest		£1,000+	3.50	2.63
High Flyer Issue I		£1,000+	2.95	2.21
		£10,000+	3.95	2.96
Super 90		£1,000+	4.05	3.04
		£25,000+	5.05	3.79
	(Income)	£10,000+	4.15	3.11
Spa TESSA ††			6.30	–
Spa TESSA II†			5.70	–
Maximiser High-Return Feeder Issue I			6.85	5.14

For details of other accounts please contact your local branch. Interest rates are variable and are correct at time of going to press. Net equivalents assume the current basic rate of income tax of 25%. Interest will be payable net of the basic rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or, subject to the required registration, gross. Net rates quoted are rounded and are for illustrative purposes only. †Tax-exempt.

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KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

US championship

This year's US Championship has been dominated by Russian emigrés. With two rounds to go the competition at Long Beach, California, is led by Alexander Shabalov with seven points from a possible nine, ahead of Alex Yermolinsky on 6½, John Fedorowicz on six, Gata Kamsky 5½, Dmitri Gurevich five and Grigory Kaidanov 4½. Defending champion Patrick Wolff is in last place with three points.

Belgrade struggle

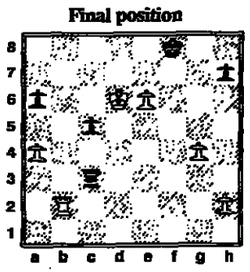
The teenage Russian grandmaster Vladimir Kramnik is hot on the heels of Alexander Beliavsky, the leader, in the Belgrade tournament currently in progress. Here he dispatches the early leader, Evgeny Bareev, in a fashionable line of the Slav.

White: Vladimir Kramnik
Black: Evgeny Bareev
Investbanka tournament, Belgrade, December 1993

Slav Defence

1	Nf3	d5
2	d4	Nf6
3	c4	c6
4	Nc3	a6
5	a4	e6
6	g3	b6
7	Bg2	Bb7
8	0-0	Be7
9	Ne5	Nbd7
10	Nxd7	Nxd7
11	e4	dxc4
12	Qg4	c5
13	d5	0-0
14	dxe6	Ne5
15	exf7+	Rxf7
16	Qe6	Qd6
17	Qxd6	Bxd6
18	f4	Nd3
19	e5	Bxg2
20	Kxg2	Bc7
21	e6	Rf5
22	g4	Rxd4
23	Bxd4	Nxd4+
24	Rxd4	Bxd4
25	Nd5	Bg5
26	Nxb6	Rd8
27	Nd7	Bf6
28	Rf1	Rc8
29	Nxf6+	gxf6
30	Rxd6	Rb8
31	Rf2	Rb7
32	Kg3	Re7
33	Rf6	Rb7
34	Rf2	Re7
35	Re2	Kf8
36	Kf4	Rb7
37	Ke5	Rb3
38	Kd6	c3
39	bxc3	Rxc3
40	Rb2	Black resigns

Final position



Winning Move, page 40

Three in four nurses harassed on wards

ALMOST three in four registered nurses and one in three student nurses have been sexually harassed at work, according to a survey. Forty six per cent of registered nurses had been harassed in the past 12 months.

All attacks took place in hospital and were mostly carried out by patients. Doctors and male nurses were the next most likely offenders.

Research by psychologists at Plymouth University found that, in the majority of cases, harassment took place on the ward. It was said to be both physical and verbal, involving unnecessary touching and sexual innuendo. Many victims suffered headaches, exhaustion and lack of sleep as a result. Few reported the incident.

Results of the survey, which was based on questionnaires from 116 nurses, including six men, were disclosed at a meeting of the British Psychological Society in London yesterday.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man jailed for cruelty to python

A photographer was jailed for 90 days yesterday for being cruel to a snake, which he used as a prop for snapshots of the paying public.

Magistrates at Portsmouth, Hampshire, were told that David Trickett, 31, from Newport, Gwent, kept a 10 ft python called Monty in a holdall in his YMCA room.

Trickett, who had been jailed twice for similar offences, admitted keeping the snake while banned, and causing it suffering. He was banned from keeping reptiles for ten years.

Two held in cheques raid

Police arrested two men and seized thousands of pounds in counterfeit building society cheques when they raided Prontaprint in Newcastle upon Tyne.

More than £1 million of forged £20 notes were seized in the city in November. A printer was arrested and charged.

Thief stabbed

A thief fled bloody-handed after trying to rob a charity shop at Bridgwater, Somerset. Mara Gratton, 66, who works in the shop, stabbed him in the palm with a kitchen knife.

Car forfeit

William Overs, 77, was ordered by magistrates on the Isle of Wight to forefeit his car after driving to the police station while disqualified to demonstrate his skills at the wheel.

Fire at squat

A fire seriously damaged Rutland Park Mansions, the north London block of flats cleared of squatters on Sunday. Police are treating the blaze as suspicious.

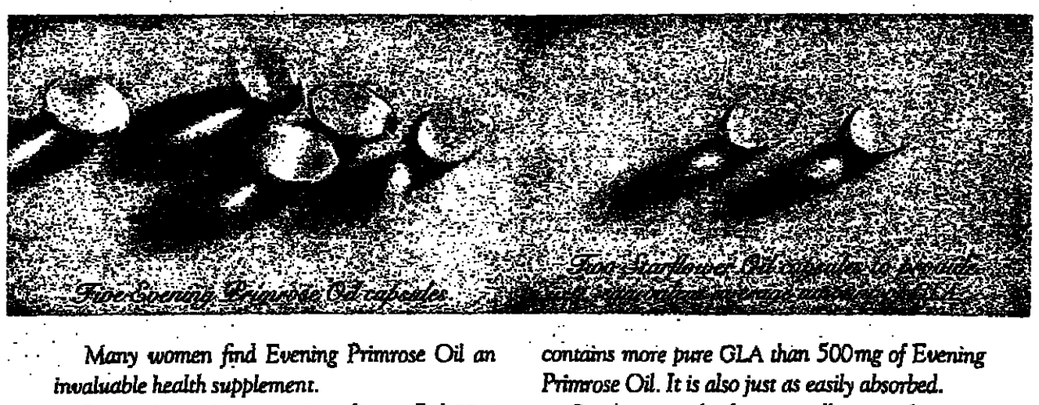
Video nasty

Poor spelling gave away 17 people arrested at car boot sales in North Yorkshire in a crackdown on pirate video dealers. Their £2 Disney classic was entitled *Alladin*.

Tasty haul

Thieves stole a lorry loaded with £45,000 of smoked salmon, caviar and other delicacies destined for the *QE2* at Southampton docks.

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France proclaims 'beautiful victory' after Gatt agreement

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS AND GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

■ **Despite jubilation in Paris circles French farmers remain angry. They claim their interests have been betrayed by the government after months of protests. Nationalist politicians are likely to fuel the debate**

FRANCE yesterday proclaimed a "beautiful victory" over the United States in the exclusion of culture from the Gatt accord while disgruntled farmers took to the Paris streets ahead of a parliamentary debate today in which Edouard Balladur will seek a vote of confidence for his government.

"It is a beautiful victory," Alain Carignon, the communications minister, said as ministers, film-makers and intellectuals hailed the success of France's drive to protect Europe's broadcasting quotas and the subsidies it provides to its film industry. "Everything which is audio-visual, everything which touches on culture, will not be in the free-trade market, will not be included in Gatt." For Jean-Jacques Beneix, the film director and a champion of the cultural fight, the decision marked "the birth of a second Europe, a Europe which is acquiring a spiritual dimension".

The provisional exclusion of the contested "audio-visual" industry was a welcome weapon for M Balladur as he attempts to persuade sceptical politicians and the public that France has obtained satisfaction in the Gatt negotiation. The Prime Minister's office said the outline of the cultural



Sutherland: accord boosted his career at Gatt

decision was agreed in a telephone call between M Balladur and President Clinton on Sunday.

Agreement on Gatt lifts the biggest political burden borne by M Balladur since he took office in March, inheriting his Gaullist party's electoral promises to do battle against the world trade agreement in the name of French sovereignty. Misgivings over the revised farm accord between Europe and the United States are unlikely to cause much trouble for the government when it debates Gatt and seeks a confidence vote for its performance in office in parliament today. However, farmers from militant unions staged noisy protests against what they called the government's betrayal yesterday. Several dozen occupied the top of the Arc de Triomphe while about 300 clashed with riot police when they tried to march on the National Assembly.

The mainstream farmers' unions are likely to acquiesce in M Balladur's decision, though their sense of betrayal after months of fierce pro-farming rhetoric is likely to be heightened by nationalist politicians on both left and right. A taste came yesterday from Philippe de Villiers, a populist from the centre-right UDF group, allied to the government, who said: "Europe has lain down and France has capitulated. The government of Messrs Mitterrand and Balladur has purely and simply betrayed the interests of France."

The key to M Balladur's expected smooth passage in the debate today came with congratulations from Jacques Chirac, the party leader and presidential candidate. However, M Chirac pointedly praised Alain Juppé, the Foreign Minister, for his handling of the negotiations while failing to mention M Balladur, who is now seen as the party leader's top rival. M Chirac, who has cast himself as the protector of the rural world, signalled unease with the farm accord, saying France "must now define a new agricultural ambition".

A successfully concluded Gatt treaty will boost a number of political reputations in Europe and enliven the contest to succeed Jacques Delors as president of the European Commission. Sir Leon Brittan, keen to step into M Delors' shoes, has not only avoided an often predicted internal EC crisis over trade but also clearly got the better of Mickey Kantor. Peter Sutherland, the ex-European Commissioner who now directs Gatt, will have his chances of returning to Brussels as president boosted. M Balladur will gain momentum in his bid for the French presidency in 1995, since he will be able to claim that France pushed its EC partners into resisting US attempts to colonise European cinema and television.

EC-US harmony, page 1



Sir Leon Brittan, left, the EC Trade Commissioner, and Mickey Kantor, the American Trade Representative, celebrating the world trade accord in Geneva yesterday

America forced to pay the price of tactical errors

BY GEORGE BROCK

JUST after announcing the deal between America and the European Community on world trade here yesterday, Sir Leon Brittan zigzagged in a euphoric daze through rapid-fire television interviews, sounding and looking like a man who had just publicly announced a draw but knew that he had scored a victory.

The EC's chief trade negotiator had good reason to feel satisfied. He had just sat next to his American opposite number at a press conference marking the end of talks which ought to ensure the completion of a world trade treaty before a deadline tomorrow morning.

Mickey Kantor, Washington's trade representative, denied that France had defeated America by its insistence on retaining limits on American films and television in the European market. "They did not win," he said. "In fact, the French people lost. They're going to be denied the right to use their freedom of choice."

Mr Kantor and President Clinton committed the classic tactical error of making their concessions too early. American negotiators yielded to French demands on adjusting the Blair House farm subsidy deal almost a week ago, and also threw in an obscure but important concession on aluminium aimed at pacifying the French metal conglomerate Péchiney. The world's two largest trading blocs then locked themselves in an "audio-visual" quarrel over prime-time percentages and blank tape levies which is of secondary importance to a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) but looms large for an American President close to Hollywood.

Sir Leon had flown back to Geneva late on Monday armed with a rejection of the latest American offer confirmed in Brussels by EC Foreign Ministers that afternoon. Mr Clinton's attempt to split EC leaders among themselves, and against the European Commission which negotiates for all 12 governments, had failed. Mr Clinton had phoned John Major, Edouard Balladur, the French Prime Minister, and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, on Sunday, but all three had been briefed in detail by Sir Leon. Throughout Monday night Sir Leon and Mr Kantor bartered. Mr Kantor left the room more than once to phone Mr Clinton. The EC team passed the time in what one of them described as an "airless, overheated, windowless bunker", drinking mineral water from polystyrene cups and eating the odd apple. They played skittles with oranges.

By breakfast the agreement, which eviscerates most of the planned Gatt agreements on service industries, was done: shipping had been cut out, financial services sit halfway in and halfway out of the treaty, and film and television have been dropped.

European negotiators held the edge by — for once — conquering the EC's tendency to fragment in a crisis. France's obduracy had been a useful bargaining chip for Sir Leon, but Paris had not taken over the talks.



Clinton: sidetracked by Hollywood squabble

UN agrees to appoint rights commissioner

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations has agreed to appoint its first high commissioner for human rights, almost 50 years after the post was proposed.

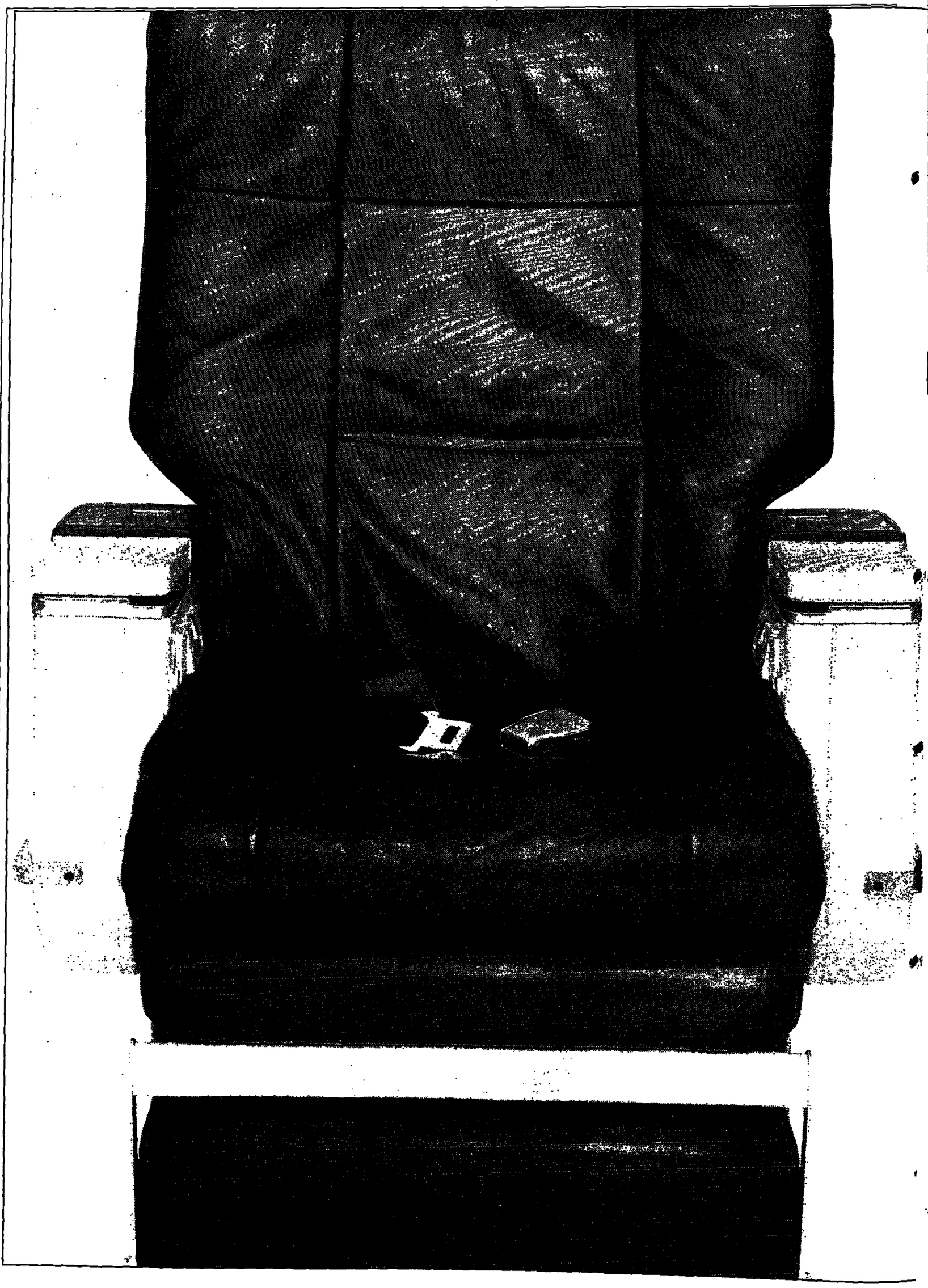
The decision by a general assembly committee, due to be ratified by the full chamber in the next few days, is a victory for Western nations who had fought for the post against the objections of key Asian countries such as China and Malaysia.

Unlike the UN Commission for Human Rights, which meets once a year to condemn abuses and appoint investigators, the commissioner will be able to intervene without requiring the approval of a majority of the commission's 53 members. Human rights activists say that this should make the commissioner less susceptible to political pressure, and more able to take on awkward subjects such as Northern Ireland.

The agreed mandate says the commissioner should play an active role in defending human rights around the world. But the Western bloc had to make compromises to secure a consensus, dropping any direct reference to the commissioner's right to dispatch fact-finding missions or to launch investigations of rights violations.

The agreed text says simply that the commissioner will "engage in dialogue with governments with a view to securing full enjoyment of all human rights" — a phrase Western officials contend will still allow him or her to initiate enquiries. In return, Third World countries dropped their insistence on wording that would give economic development priority over civil rights.

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, will appoint the first commissioner for a four-year term. Among the names being floated are Oscar Arias Sánchez, the former Costa Rican President who won a Nobel peace prize for his peace efforts in Central America, and Ibrahima Fall, the former Foreign Minister of Senegal.



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Breakaway Serb region rejects Belgrade choice

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE AND TOM RHODES IN KAKANJ

IN A humiliating setback for Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian President, voters in the breakaway Serb regions of Croatia have decisively rejected the man he had nominated to lead them. They have chosen instead Milan Babic, a nationalist maverick with a track record of stubborn resistance against following dictates from Belgrade.

Voters in the self-declared Republic of Serbian Krajina went to the polls last Sunday in their first general and presidential election since the war with Croatia in 1991. With votes still being counted, it was clear that Mr Babic was well ahead of Milan Martic, his nearest rival.

Last night Mr Martic called for the allegedly fraudulent results in several constituencies to be annulled. Mr Martic, the powerful Krajina police chief, had received the personal blessing of Mr Milosevic and was widely expected to win. Mr Babic played a key role in the war with Croatia but was ousted by Mr Milosevic when he opposed the United Nations peace deal in Croatia.

Mr Babic is a hardliner who will brook no suggestion of a return of Krajina to Croatian sovereignty. However, his election is a blow to Mr Milosevic because it means that he has lost political control of the area.

Negotiations with Croatia will now be more difficult because Mr Babic cannot be relied upon to do Mr Milosevic's bidding. It was unclear whether Mr Babic had won enough votes to avoid a second round in the presidential poll, but his party was reported to have won a majority in Krajina's parliament. The election result set alarm bells ringing in Serbia, which holds its own general election on Sunday.

In central Bosnia the giant power station at Kakanj faces the threat of closure within 20 days. The plant, which supplies electricity to an area ranging from parts of Sarajevo to the central Bosnian valley, is unable to function without both cleansing hydrochloric acid to treat the water and coal to fire the boilers.

One thousand tonnes of chemicals have been gathering dust at the United Nations depot in Metkovic since July, but the Bosnian Croats have refused permission for their transport.

Paddy Ashdown, Leader of the Liberal Democrats, who has been touring several Bosnia enclaves, said that central Bosnia was now effectively under siege. Mr Ashdown is likely to press the British Government to urge the UN to reopen the airport at Tuzla.

In Sarajevo, eight people were killed and ten were wounded in a heavy mortar and artillery attack yesterday.



Egyptian women watching rescue teams searching through debris after a landslide in Cairo yesterday killed at least 25 people. Police said up to 50 more people were buried when 3,000 tonnes of rock broke off an escarpment, destroying nine houses and damaging five. Three survivors were found and taken to hospital. Many people rushed to the site to look for missing relatives and women wept as bodies were pulled out. Hundreds of residents gathered to watch the rescue teams. Egyptian television quoted officials as saying the rock broke loose because heat from burning rubbish at a nearby dump and an earthquake last year cracked the cliff face at the Moqattam Hills. *(Reuter)*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Naples hit by mystery cloud of toxic gas

Rome: More than 100 Neapolitans were treated for the effects of a mysterious poison gas cloud that the Environment Ministry said could be the work of criminals trying to sabotage the new Naples mayor (John Phillips writes).

The alarm began on Saturday and at first was blamed on smog from the city's traffic. Raffaele Carducci, director of an anti-poison centre, said: "Car exhausts have nothing to do with this". Corrado Clini, the ministry director-general, said the smog might have been caused deliberately to sabotage Antonio Bassolino, the mayor of the Democratic Party of the Left, who last week defeated Alessandra Mussolini, the granddaughter of *Il Duce*, in hard-fought elections.

India round-up

London: More than 200 people have "disappeared" after being taken into custody by Indian security forces in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, according to Amnesty International. *(AFP)*

Autonomy bid

Bangkok: Khun Sa, an opium warlord in the Golden Triangle, declared an independent state for Burma's Shan ethnic minority with himself as president and asked President Clinton for help to eradicate drugs. *(Reuter)*

Heroin seized

Nuremberg: German police seized 640lb of heroin, their biggest haul, in a British-registered lorry loaded with Turkish nuts arriving from the Czech Republic. *(Reuter)*

Prisoners freed

Baghdad: President Saddam Hussein of Iraq ordered the release of a Frenchman and a German serving eight-year jail sentences for entering the country illegally from Kuwait. *(Reuter)*

Bardot fears



Paris: Brigitte Bardot, the French actress, said her husband's right-wing views could break up their marriage. She married Bernard d'Ormale, a National Front member, last year. She told *Libération:* "I find it too extremist." (Reuter)

Segregation returns to US schools

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AFTER a quarter of a century of sustained progress towards racial integration, schools in the United States are becoming more segregated, according to a Harvard report.

Two-thirds of all black children attend schools where a majority of students are from minorities, the highest level since 1968. For Hispanics the figure is 73 per cent.

"The civil rights impulse of the 1960s is dead in the water and the ship is floating back toward the shoals of racial segregation," said Gary Orfield, director of the Harvard Project on School Desegration, which conducted the study. America was returning to "a uniquely Americanised form of apartheid," said Johnathan Wilson, of the National School Boards Association.

The report attributes the reversal to the growing concentration of minority students in inner cities, de facto segregation even in the suburbs, high birth and immigration rates among minorities, and the downgrading of racial integration as a political issue.

The Supreme Court first ruled school segregation unconstitutional in 1954. In 1971 the Supreme Court approved the highly emotive idea of bussing children between areas to ensure racial diversity in schools. But by the mid-1980s desegregation had slowed almost to a standstill.

Classroom prayer debate born again

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

Bishop Knox, a headmaster in Jackson, Mississippi, was dismissed last month for allowing a pupil to read a 21-word prayer over his school intercom, an act which the vast majority of Mississipians applaud but which the US constitution forbids.

In 1962 the Supreme Court barred compulsory prayers in state schools, citing the principle of separation of Church and State, but the sacking of Mr Knox has caused the debate to be born again, prompting a new religious crusade in this God-fearing southern community.

Nearly 300 pupils at Wingfield High School in Jackson were suspended after they walked out of classes in support of their headteacher. Then hundreds more held prayer vigils at nearby schools, and last week more than 4,000 demonstrators converged on the state capitol to demand the return of school prayer.

The first blast of the trumpet by Mr Knox, 38, a born-again Christian, has provided a rallying symbol for many southern Christians who regard the Supreme Court's ruling against school prayer as an infringement of their religious liberty. Even Kirk Fordice, the state governor, who once declared America to be a Christian nation, has embraced the Knox cause with evangelical fervour. "If we keep on with what started in Jackson, Mississippi, one day, I hope soon, it's not going to be legal to keep prayer out of public schools," Mr Fordice proclaimed last week.

Jackson is one of the most solidly Christian cities in America: 36 per cent of households hold regular Bible study, compared with less than 10 per cent in New York. When Mr Knox asked pupils at Wingfield High to address the issue of school prayer they voted 490 to 96 in favour. No less than 97 per cent of local residents say that he was dismissed unfairly.

The upsurge of religious zeal that is surrounding the debate over prayer in southern schools reflects a new-found determination among American Christians to galvanise the faithful once again into a coherent political force. Christian state politicians are pushing through legislation to reinstate school prayer and a law suit has been prepared which supporters of Mr Knox hope to take all the way back to the Supreme Court.

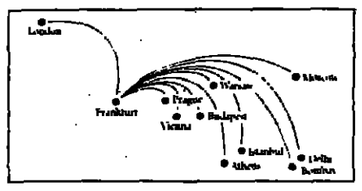
Critics of Mr Knox argue that prayer is already permissible by individual school students and in extra-curricular Bible study classes, so long as it is not imposed on others.

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Mesmeric nationalist leader revels in sweet smell of Moscow election success

Rising dark star pledges politics of the iron fist

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

POLITICIANS' attire at afternoon press conferences rarely includes aged dinner jacket, starched white shirt and bow tie, but in this matter as in many others, normality means little to Vladimir Zhirinovsky, leader of the far-right Liberal Democratic Party which has the largest share of the votes in the new Russian parliament.

Brandishing an incongruous bunch of red carnations — the flowers are used to mark military victory and death in Russia — he was followed by a stream of unintroduced men and one woman. "As you see, I have brought my shadow cabinet," he said. Not that they got much of a word in for the next two hours but gazed in admiration at their leader. One was to be responsible for rebuilding a strong security service to protect Russia from alien infiltration, we were told.

The microphone was superfluous. Mr Zhirinovsky managed a full four sentences at normal speaking volume before launching into the tones of the beer-hall meeting, crescendos of loosely associated thoughts, declaiming in short, punchy utterances. "The dog days are over," he cried. "The days of reforms which hurt our people are over. We will match the criminal and legal systems to our needs. There will be new foreign policy. Russia will act autonomously. It is time to stop helping our neighbours, and help ourselves," he declared.

The "nonsensial" conversion of defence industries would be stopped as soon as possible, he proclaimed, adding: "As long as there is an international arms market, we will find a niche in it."

ZHIRINOVSKY

At the far end of the stage stood three heavies, their considerable bulk enhanced by thick padded coats. They stroked the antennae of their mobile telephones as if they were truncheons, and looked thoroughly bored.

Usually they have the chance for a good scuffle as they bundle out those who pose unwelcome questions. The largest of them walked to the front of the stage now and then to glare at the assembled journalists.

Mr Zhirinovsky's first post-election appearance was held in the grandiose Slavayanskaya Hotel, home to Western offices, dollar restaurants and a shopping mall selling Chanel and Gucci, all symbols of the very Westernisation he so loathes. He was unperturbed by his surroundings and by the flood of hostile questions.

The new dark star of Russia's political firmament is a very clever demagogue indeed. His mesmeric mix is just right, the hoarse, rasping voice switching within a sentence from the soothing to the aggressive.

The injured frown he adopts to convey that he is being wilfully misunderstood is transformed in an instance to a hard glare fixed on anyone who challenges him. Sentences that begin as a promise end with a threat.

One of the most perturbing aspects of his talent is his ability to assume the mantle of authority. Most declarations begin with "we", which he uses interchangeably to refer to the supporters of his chauvinist ideology and to the whole of Russia, a dangerous *pars pro toto* that renders his enemies the foes of Holy Russia, to be dealt with accordingly. "We will forbid those who try to divide or destroy our state."

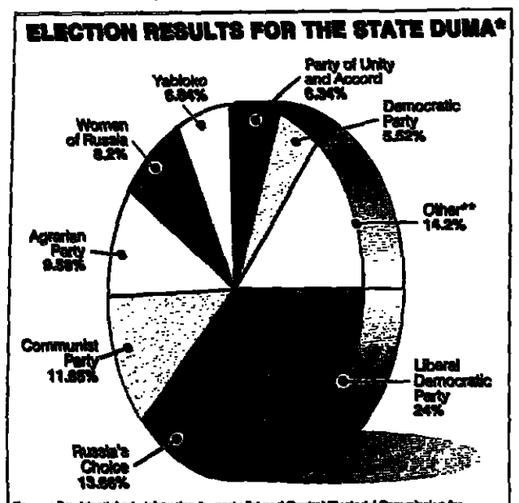
Gennadi Khazankov, a television impersonator who includes Mr Zhirinovsky in his repetoire, was singled out as a target. Mr Khazanov, not incidentally, is a Jew who has lived in Israel. "Some political parodists may have to be driven out of the country," Mr Zhirinovsky intoned.

Coalition plans, page 1
Daniel Johnson, page 16
Leading article and letters, page 17



Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Russian neo-Fascist leader, smelling carnations presented to him yesterday at a press conference in Moscow

ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE STATE DUMA*



Source: Presidential administration for party list and Central Electoral Commission for constituency seats. *Returns from 69 of Russia's 89 regions in the party list section (total 225 seats), and from 83 of the 225 constituency seats. **Those parties individually are unlikely to gain the 5% threshold needed to win seats

Neo-Fascist targets Caucasians

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

VLADIMIR Zhirinovsky is the most successful exponent so far of a Russian Fascist tradition going back almost a century. The chaos accompanying the end of the Soviet Union have given him his chance, and he has seized it with a skill more reminiscent of Hitler than of his incompetent Russian forebears.

One reason for Mr Zhirinovsky's success may be that he has escaped, to some extent, the Russian extreme right's hatred and fear of the Jews. The infamous anti-Semitic work, *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, was forged by Russian rightwingers in 1903, possibly with the help of the Tsarist secret police. In the last years of the Russian empire, the notorious Black Hundreds launched vicious pogroms gainst the Jewish minority in the empire. Anti-Semitism was initially suppressed by Communism, but in the last years of Stalin's rule the campaign against "rootless cosmopolitanism" threatened savage executions and deportation which were averted only by the tyrant's death. Since then anti-Semitism, usually under the cloak of anti-Zionism, had a respectable place in the Communist Party. The distinguished "village" school of traditionalist nationalist authors, who emerged in the 1970s and played a leading part in modern Russian literature, are heavily anti-Semitic.

Mr Zhirinovky, however, is probably partly Jewish on his father's side — a suggestion he has shrugged off with the joke "My mother was Russian and my father was a lawyer". Anti-Semitism has played a relatively small part in his rhetoric so far, possibly because he has realised that Jews play a small role in the demonology of most ordinary Russians. Mr Zhirinovsky's relative playing down of this issue has left him free to attack the figures that many contemporary Russians really do fear and hate: the non-Russian nationalities of the former Soviet Union and, above all, the Caucasians.

The wars in the Caucasus have allowed ordinary Russians to think of Azerbaijanis, Georgians and others as savages, while their prominence in trade and shopkeeping has attached to them some of the prejudices which used to be directed against Jews. Caucasians are prominent in organised crime, a fact Mr Zhirinovsky has harped on endlessly. In attacking the Caucasians, and promising to defend the rights of Russians living outside Russia against "rape and murder", Mr Zhirinovsky is articulating a consensus in Russian society.

Whereas other right-wing leaders have had a coherent ideology of sorts, Mr Zhirinovsky has none.But this has allowed him to avoid battles over Russian history between supporters of the Communist tradition and those of the Tsars. His speeches are little more than a string of unco-ordinated outbursts, but he shares with Hitler and other great demagogues an ability to sense and play upon the key resentments and hatred of his audience.

Admirer of Fascist past to run Hungary

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BUDAPEST

HUNGARY has reverted to its authoritarian past with the selection by the ruling Hungarian Democratic Forum (MDF) of Peter Boross, the Interior Minister, as caretaker Prime Minister until general elections scheduled for next spring.

Mr Boross, who earlier this year expressed admiration for Admiral Miklos Horthy, Hungary's wartime Fascist leader, was selected by the centre-right MDF to follow Jozsef Antall, who died on Sunday. Mr Boross now heads the interim government that will rule with limited powers until a new government can be formed. The MDF will propose that President Goncz put Mr Boross's name before parliament for approval.

Mr Boross, 63, who has never faced a popular election, is not an MP and only joined the MDF last year. Under the Communist regime he ran a state catering organisation, an economically powerful post tying him into the regime. As a blunt, outspoken Interior Minister, he has sparked several controversies and opposition MPs describe him as a right-wing conservative authoritarian. "He is a dangerous person. He is not a populist ... he is a right-wing conservative authoritarian," said Ferenc Koszeg, an Alliance of Free Democrats MP, this year.

In September Mr Boross caused concern among Hungary's Jewish community after he attended the public reburial in Hungary of Admiral Horthy. At the funeral he said that he admired Horthy's "manly character and unshakeable Hungarianness". Half a million Hungarian Jews died in the Holocaust.

Like many post-Communist politicians in East Europe, Mr Boross makes great play of his commitment to democracy but shows little understanding of the Western agenda, say opposition MPs. He was scathing when last year Amnesty International protested about conditions in a government-run camp for illegal immigrants near Budapest.

"You know the sort of people who make these reports. They are the over-sensitive, liberal philanthropists you find in every country," he said in an interview with the BBC. He also demanded to know where Amnesty International was during the 1956 revolution, unaware that it did not exist until 1961.

Speaking after his selection on Monday night, Mr Boross told reporters he did not plan major changes in the government. "I think very serious times are coming ... it is really most important that this country reaches the end of the four-year cycle in an orderly and calm way."

New lease of life granted to dreams of Tsarist hawks

BY MARTIN IVENS

VLADMIR Zhirinovsky's extravagant imperialist ambitions for Russia, which sound so startling to modern ears, would have come as no surprise to Victorian imperialists. Mr Zhirinovsky's dream "of our Russian soldiers washing their boots in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean" was the ever-present nightmare of patriotic Britons who fought the "Great Game" against Russia from the Crimea to the mountains of Afghanistan in the 19th century.

Mr Zhirinovsky believes that "the leap south is not only a solution to Russia's internal problems and the pacification of peoples in regions from Kabul to Istanbul; it is also the solution of a world task".

His hawkish Tsarist predecessors had sent Cossack columns flying across the expanses of Central Asia, arousing fears that they would threaten the British hold on India.

It was, of course, Rudyard Kipling's *Kim* that romanticised the Great Game for generations of schoolboys, all convinced that the Russian Bear had nefarious designs upon the jewel in the crown.

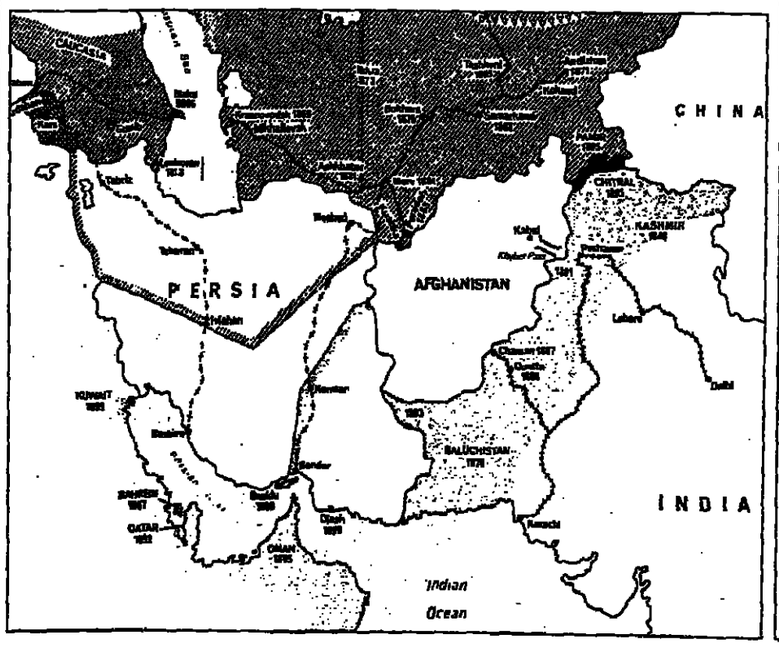
With each annexation in the Middle East and Central Asia, the borders of the great British and Russian empires drew nearer and the threat of war became more imminent. Spies from both sides made their way by perilous routes to the Muslim emirates of Khiva and Bokhara. Execution at the hands of their Muslim hosts was often their fate.

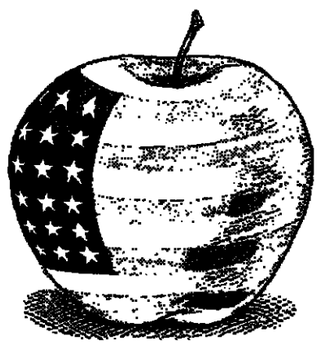
At the western end of Asia, the plight of the Ottoman Empire, "the Sick Man of Europe", excited the ambitions of St Petersburg and alarmed London. To the Russians, seizure of the Bosphorus and the Straits was a glittering prize. Claiming to be the protector of Slavs and Orthodox Christians within the Ottoman Empire, Russia could claim to interfere from the Holy Land to the Balkans.

Determined to keep Turkey as a buffer against the expansionism of other European powers, Britain went to war with Russia in the Crimea and threatened it again after the Russians defeated the Turks in 1877. War fever gripped hawks on both sides until the greater threat of a united, militaristic Germany forced statesmen to settle their Asian differences. By the Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907 spheres of influence were delineated in Persia and imperialist quarrels ended.

The warm-water controversy was by no means over. Stalin's postwar occupation of northern Iran found the Soviet Union opposed by a new Middle Eastern great power — a nuclear-armed America under a forceful President Truman who demanded that the Soviet Army withdraw. Echoes from imperial history could be heard again after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. But that incursion, which started off as a symbol of Soviet might, soon degenerated into a squalid and bloody conflict that became known as Russia's Vietnam.

Now "warm-water talk", once the language of Cold War warriors, may be heard again in Western chancelleries after Mr Zhirinovsky's rise to prominence.





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Zhirinovsky forges links with German far right

By Roger Boyes in Bonn, Michael Evans and Joanna Pitman

The up-and-coming leader of Russia's far right says his inspiration is Bismarck, not Hitler, but despite his conciliatory tone to Germany his success is worrying Bonn

VLADIMIR Zhirinovsky, the Russian neo-Fascist, pledged yesterday to build up links with Germany's extreme-right parties and to back their challenge to the postwar German-Polish border.

The leader of the Liberal Democratic Party, in his first interview with the Western press since his election victories, told the Munich-based *Nationale Zeitung* that he would not abandon reform. "We want reform too. But we don't want to destroy the state sector, nor do we want to destroy the collective farm," he told the newspaper, which is the organ of the German People's Union (DVU). The DVU, though legal, is very close to the neo-Nazis and its politicians often use racist and rabble-rousing language.

Mr Zhirinovsky's success has come just as Nato leaders expect a clamour from East European countries who want to become full members of the alliance. However, the Russian election result may limit further Nato's room for manoeuvre as it tries to offer help to East European nations without upsetting Russia.

Manfred Wörner, the Nato Secretary-General, said the alliance had no need to change its policy towards Moscow. However, in words reminiscent of the Cold War days, he said that Nato should remain vigilant towards Russia and maintain a military balance. Herr Wörner was speaking after ambassadors from the alliance and the Western European Union discussed the Russian elections at a joint meeting to prepare for the Nato summit on January 10.

In his German interview, Mr Zhirinovsky was quick to

EUROPE AND JAPAN

emphasise that he was not a Fascist. His political model, he said, was Otto von Bismarck.

Germany's counter-intelligence service has been watching Mr Zhirinovsky's movements in Germany closely. He was last there in October and told a rally in Bavaria — to loud applause — that "Germany and Russia should again have a common border". The DVU lobbies for the return of Königsberg — now Russia's Kaliningrad — but Mr Zhirinovsky said this need not be a source of conflict between his party and the DVU. "We will find a formula that leaves Germany satisfied," he said.

The emerging alliance between the far right in Russia and Germany has left Bonn reeling. There was no ambiguity about Mr Zhirinovsky's statement: indeed he talked as if the DVU, which has barely 5,000 active members, was the government.

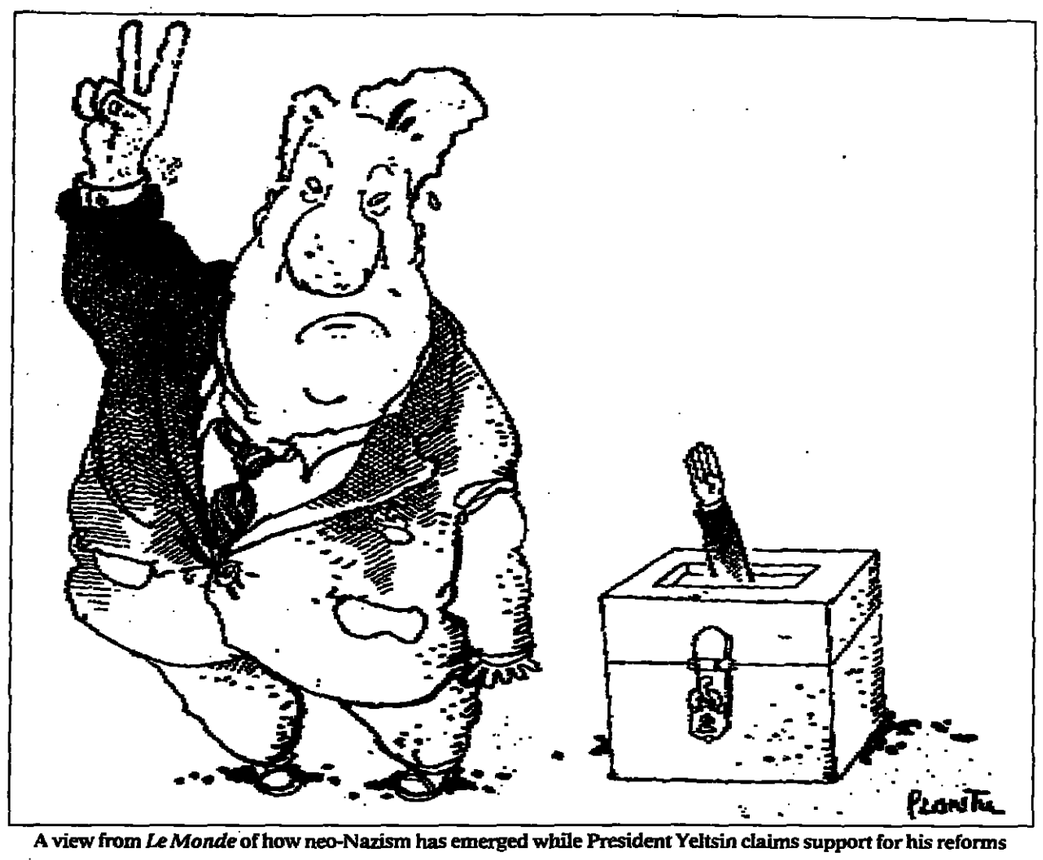
Germany's immediate concern is about the 100,000 Russian soldiers on German soil. Mr Zhirinovsky plainly secured many votes from the army and to a large degree articulates their bitterness about Moscow's military withdrawal from East Europe. His anti-German rhetoric precisely echoes the grumbles of middle-ranking officers.

In a speech two years ago, Mr Zhirinovsky said: "Now the Germans are interfering in our affairs, but when I'm sitting in the Kremlin, if a German so much as challenges Russia, then you will pay for everything, you Germans. We Russians saved you, but the third time will be the last time if you meddle again."

On that occasion, he theatened to use nuclear weapons against Germany — as he did in a tape distributed in Germany yesterday — and Japan. "You know what Chernobyl meant for our country. You will get your own Chernobyl in Germany."

Mr Zhirinovsky, in his interview, struck a rather different note. "Germany doesn't need any foreign troops, and I can see no sensible reason why foreign troops should be stationed on German territory and why German soldiers should have to obey foreign commanders. Germany is not a protectorate, but a significant power." The vulnerability of Germany to developments in Russia has long been obvious. A third of Germany's domestic gas comes from Russia, and about 90 per cent of it is transported through Ukrainian pipelines. Friction between Mr Zhirinovsky and Ukraine could mean trouble for Germany. More than half of Russia's £5 billion foreign debt is owed to German banks, a dangerous level of exposure.

On the far side of the vastness of the Russian Federation, the Japanese government remained surprisingly unruffled yesterday by Mr Zhirinovsky's comments, reported in the Japanese press, that the Kurile Islands are indisputably a part of Russian territory. "We have no territorial questions with anyone. These islands belong to Russia," he said. The four islands, Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai group, which lie just off Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, were seized by Soviet paratroops at the close of the Second World War and have been claimed by Tokyo ever since, preventing the signing of a post-Second World War peace treaty between the two countries. This latest salvo from Mr Zhirinovsky has been all but ignored by a government which is entangled in a sticky web of domestic problems that include unfinished political reform legislation, an ailing economy that needs prompt government support measures, and the fury of the nation's politically powerful farming lobby at the announcement by Morihiro Hosokawa, the Prime Minister, that he has agreed to a Gatt proposal to liberalise Japan's hitherto protected rice market.



A view from *Le Monde* of how neo-Nazism has emerged while President Yeltsin claims support for his reforms

Fears of reborn empire chill frontline states

From Olli Kivinen in Helsinki and Nicholas Bethell in Tallinn

THE strong showing in Russia's parliamentary elections by Vladimir Zhirinovsky blew like a cold Siberian wind over Scandinavia and the Baltic states because of his ultra-nationalistic statements about bringing the Baltic countries as well as Finland, Alaska and Poland back to the Russia empire.

SCANDINAVIA AND BALTICS

Heikki Haavisto, Finland's Foreign Minister, expressed official optimism, saying that Finland was not worried. But



Meri: signalled start of the Fourth World War

the media and the general public showed more alarmed.

Mr Zhirinovsky has issued several contradictory statements about his intentions concerning Finland and other neighours. His latest line is that he does not want Finland back in the empire which it left in 1917.

The reaction in the Baltic countries was more alarmed because Mr Zhirinovsky has made it clear that they would be among the first to be brought back to the Russian empire, and they are still badly off balance after 50 years of occupation. The remnants of Russian occupation troops are still in Estonia and Latvia.

President Meri of Estonia, who was deported to Siberia when he was 12, spoke before the election about his country's fears. He forecast that if the results were not good, "Russia will begin rebuilding the empire and we will be faced with the fourth world war. Vladimir Zhirinovsky is fond of saying that Russia ought to reconquer my country and make it once again part of the Russian empire. Our politics is the politics of survival as a nation."

Anders Bjorck, the Swedish Defence Minister, said that Sweden could not remain neutral if one of the Baltic countries was attacked, but he ruled out military intervention. Carl Bildt, the prime minister, issued a similar statement before the elections.

Johan Jorgen Holst, Norway's Foreign Minister, said that the success of ultra nationalists is "scaring" and "signal of danger for many of us."

Norway has a common frontier with Russia in the far north near Russia's huge ballistic missile and submarine bases in the Kola peninsula.

Lord Bethell is MEP for London North-West.

Israel makes plea for increased emigration

By Richard Beeston in Jerusalem and Eve-Ann Prentice

ISRAEL yesterday urged Jews living in Russia to emigrate to Israel as soon as possible, after the success of neo-Fascists in Russian parliamentary elections.

Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, voiced the concerns of many Jews about the impact of Vladimir Zhirinovsky's ultra-nationalist Liberal Democratic Party in Sunday's polls. "I think the Russians got it right on the constitution and wrong on the parliament,

JEWISH VIEW

but it is their decision." Mr Peres said. "What I can say to all Jewish people is that their place is here."

The Jewish Agency, the quasi-governmental organisation responsible for Jewish immigration, has said it will expedite applications for Jews wanting to come to Israel as a result of the elections.

The Jewish religious communities and organisations of Russia echoed the concern of Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations Secretary-General, about the strong nationalist vote and called on MPs to condemn racism. "We want to express our concern and worries about the positions of some parties ... whose election programmes included undemocratic and inhumane provisions in ethnic issues."

In London, a spokesman for Dr Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi, said he was "deeply concerned by the support for the neo-Fascists in the Russian parliamentary elections. The results constitute an ominous signal for both Russia and the former republics."

The Board of Deputies of British Jews also expressed dismay. "This man, Zhirinovsky, has made the classical statement of anti-Semites, that the ills of Russia are due to Jews and other ethnic groups," said Israel Finestein, the board's president. Referring to the fact that Mr Zhirinovsky's father was from a Jewish family, he said: "Whatever his origins may be, his words have the marks of a would-be demagogue."

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Does Weimar's history explain the rise of Russian fascism? **Daniel Johnson** reports

Is Russia on the Nazi route?



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Weimar style in George Grosz's "Street Scene Kurfurstendam No. 7": are there similarities with contemporary Russia?

A spectre is haunting Europe — the spectre of Russian Nazism. Vladimir Zhirinovsky's national socialists (because that is what they are, although they use the witty misnomer "Liberal Democrats") may even have surpassed Hitler's achievement. The Nazis leapt into second place in September 1930, behind the Social Democrats and ahead of the Communists, but their performance in earlier elections had been dismal. Zhirinovsky's party has won the most votes at its first free election. Those closest to President Yeltsin, such as the leader of the second largest party, Yegor Gaidar, believe that post-Communist Russia is rapidly turning into another Weimar Germany. Russia seems gripped by a self-pitying fatalism.

Even for politicians in the throes of a genuine political crisis, however, the Weimar card can be played too glibly. "Weimar Germany" has taken on a mythical life of its own, quite independent of the reality. But fictions are nearly always based on facts. Alongside Weimar politics — a kind of leather-clad Wagnerian music drama — there was Weimar culture. This is the Weimar of *Cabaret* (now enjoying a revival in the West End) or of the *Threepenny Opera*, George Grosz and *Neue Sachlichkeit*, Marlene Dietrich and Fritz Lang, Gropius's Bauhaus and Klemperer's Kroll opera house. This was the Weimar of social experiment and sexual liberation, of educational reform and intellectual ferment. Russia is suffering the political malaise with no comparable cultural efflorescence; but high culture on a Weimar scale requires a plutocracy to finance it. Germany underwent no change in economic system in 1918 comparable to that which Russia and the rest of Eastern Europe are undergoing. The Weimar Republic was indeed the test tube for the 20th century. Just as the culture of Weimar was ahead of its time, so Weimar politics, although disastrous, have lessons for us. So what was Weimar really like?

A defeated and bankrupt nation, lied to for too long by its imperial elite, has been awakened by a half-hearted revolution from its dreams of European domination to the humiliating recognition that the mighty armies and fleets built up over decades are redundant. There have been attempts, unsuccessful but bloody, by extremists of left and right to seize power; the military would prefer to remain neutral, but has reluctantly backed the legal authorities. The middle classes have been bled white by postwar hyperinflation; now deflationary slump brings unemployment to unprecedented levels, while the state seems powerless to relieve the people's misery. Mass disillusionment with democracy is accompanied by what might be called political chaos theory among intellectuals.

> Zhirinovsky would never have gained so many seats without bribing the voters

Against this background, the National Socialist German Workers' Party emerges from obscurity in 1930, for the first time since their attempted 1923 putsch, which landed their leader Adolf Hitler in prison. Hitler, 44 when he became chancellor in 1933 (Zhirinovsky is 47), is a war veteran-turned-demagogue who capitalises on popular nostalgia for the lost empire and the bitterness of millions of veterans who feel betrayed by civilians. His virulent anti-Semitism is (like Zhirinovsky's) played down during the years 1930-1933, as is his Austrian birth (Zhirinovsky was born in Kazakhstan). So the Nazis surge from nowhere to electoral prominence, ahead of the moderate parties of left and right. Communists and Nazis simultaneously loathe and ape one another, often joining forces against the ruling coalitions; they disrupt parliamentary business and form paramilitary formations which fight pitched battles on the streets.

In 1930, the octogenarian President Hindenburg resorts to the use of emergency powers, ostensibly to defend the constitution. For two years, Chancellor Brüning achieves relative stability by using presidential decrees to bypass the paralysed Reichstag. But in May 1932 he is dropped by Hindenburg. When the governments of the aristocrat Franz von Papen and General Schleicher, appointed by the president, fail to resolve the crisis, Hindenburg is cajoled by his kitchen cabinet of cavalry officers and diplomats into giving the declared enemies of the republic their chance of leadership in January 1933.

Ironically, this happens just as the Nazis' electoral fortunes are waning: in November 1932, they lost two million votes and 34 seats. The Nazi leaders squabble over whether to enter a coalition with more conservative nationalists. Hitler threatens suicide unless his lieutenants unite behind his policy of accepting only the top job. They do.

Once in the saddle, Hitler moves fast to outflank first his enemies on the left, then his coalition partners on the right. Parliamentary democracy is suspended. Elections are held and, though the communists are banned and the other parties intimidated, the Nazi victory is less than overwhelming. But the new regime claims the nation has endorsed the *Gleichschaltung*, or "co-ordination", of all institutions, parties, and organs of the state under the ruling party's apparatus. In a few months, a "leader-state", or dictatorship, is established, and approved by plebiscite.

If Weimar Germany's fate sounds a plausible one for Russia, too, one should ask what the Germans actually voted for. They did not vote for a revanchist war in 1932-33; domestic worries were uppermost in their minds. Zhirinovsky has beaten the expansionist drum, but he would never have gained so many seats without bribing the voters with bread and circuses. Hitler was able to tap into the fashion for command economies. He also exploited a genuine crisis of parliamentary democracy. It is not obvious how Zhirinovsky will succeed in bucking the global trend towards free markets; nor are the attractions of dictatorship quite as great to people who know quite well that one-party states do not even make the trains run on time.

A small victory in Venice

Nick Nuttall marvels at the restoration of St Mark's crypt, which has broken new ground in conservation

As the wind, rain and lagoon water swept over St Mark's Square in Venice yesterday, a small group of church officials and scientists gathered in the bowels of the Basilica for an historic service of blessing.

More than four centuries after being abandoned to the salt water of the Venetian lagoon seeping through its walls, the crypt of St Mark's has opened again for worship having undergone two decades of painstaking and scientifically advanced restoration. Above the small congregation, led by Cardinal Patriarch Marco Cè, the new Venetian-glass lights picked out the restored medieval paintings of the patron saint's face staring down from above one of the dozens of columns that dot the ancient shrine.

Fresh red roses had been placed on Byzantine carvings, in the chasm which once housed St Mark's tomb and in vases on the newly cleansed salt-grey and white marble floor.

The crypt, built in about AD 929 according to new evidence unearthed during the restoration, housed St Mark's body after it was brought back from Alexandria. But rising sea levels and Venice's sinking foundations gradually overwhelmed the sanctuary, forcing church officials to wall it up in 1580. Since then, there has been almost unbroken silence in the crypt save for the drip of water percolating from the piazza above and through its crumbling walls from the nearby Grand Canal.

A doomed attempt to shore-up the deteriorating structure was made at the end of the 19th century. Concrete had been discovered and Venetian officials and Catholic Church leaders saw in this new material a salvation against the salt water that had left the structure's brickwork riddled with holes and fissures.

But the concrete, plastered on the ancient bricks, proved no match for the tides and soon cracked under the strain. St Mark's crypt was again plunged into its watery night. "It was set to be crossed off the list of world monuments," a scientist involved in the restoration said yesterday.

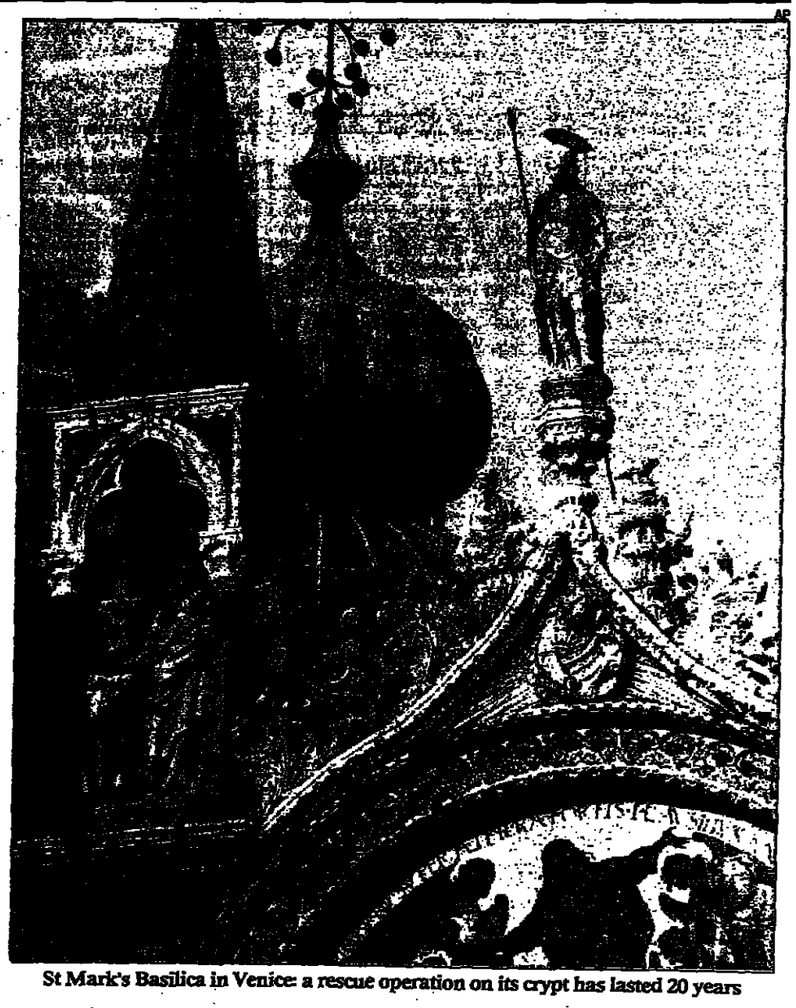
Restoration begun in earnest in the 1970s after the great floods of 1966. The 6ft-high crypt had again been completely submerged. The water was corroding wall paintings into shadowy grey sketches.

Ettore Vio, the St Mark's architect in residence, said at a conference at the Cini Foundation, in Venice, yesterday: "When the work finally started few people believed we could succeed." But, Signor Vio said, the restorers had not only confounded the critics but developed techniques and materials that may save other Venetian monuments suffering the effects of old age and water damage.

The rescue operation, which has involved scores of local conservators, environmental scientists and chemists, has been made possible by the development of specially formulated gels and foams resistant to water and salt.

The foams, similar to ones being applied to the Jubilee Line extension in London, were developed by scientists at the French chemical company Rhône-Poulenc with scientists at Padua University.

Unlike the chemicals used to damp-proof homes, these "polyurethane mousses" seek out water and dry instantly into a watertight barrier.



AP

St Mark's Basilica in Venice: a rescue operation on its crypt has lasted 20 years

The entire crypt from floor level to ceiling is now encased in a watertight skin. The team also coated the crumbling brickwork with a special mixture of clay and water which, as it dried, drew out sea salt before cracking and tumbling to the ground.

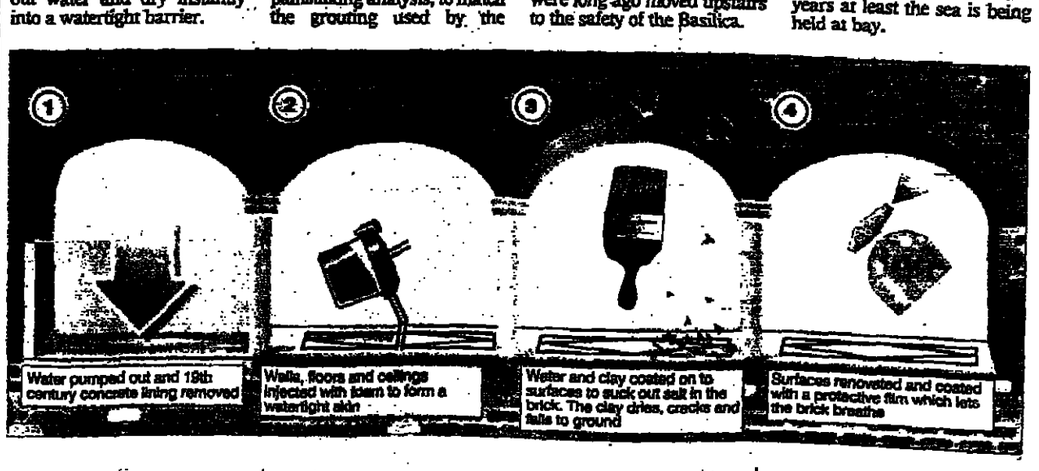
The cracks and fissures which weakened the crypt have now been filled with mortar formulated, after painstaking analysis, to match the grouting used by the original Venetian workmen.

The crypt will be formally opened for worship in the New Year to celebrate the millennium of "discovery" of the body of St Mark, which had been hidden near the altar to foil attempts by the clergy of Alexandria to reclaim it.

Whether the venerable saint's relics will be returned to the crypt is still not clear. The tomb and priceless relics were long ago moved upstairs to the safety of the Basilica.

Whether modern technology can hold back the tides also remains to be seen in this most precarious of cities.

Dr Vasco Fassina, of the Venetian Superintendents for Artistic and Historic Property, yesterday raised his hands in a resigned mixture of hope and submission. "It may last a hundred years or it may last just a few, we can only hope and see," he said. For a few years at least the sea is being held at bay.



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هكذا من الأصل

Little Rock is big news at the White House

Gossip with old friends is keeping Bill Clinton from losing touch with real life, says **Martin Fletcher**

IMAGINE, for a minute, being president of the United States. Each morning you walk 50 yards from the White House private quarters to the Oval Office. You attend meetings with aides eager to curry favour.

Visitors are so awed by their surroundings that even the least sympathetic pull their punches. Sometimes you slip out to the Rose Garden to deliver prepared remarks to a carefully-selected audience, or address the nation by talking to a television camera.

You never shop, drive or queue. The only animosity you ever experience first hand is from the White House press corps. When you travel, it is by helicopter from the South Lawn, aboard Air Force One, or behind the darkened windows of a limousine.

You see poll results, of course, and receive summaries of each day's newspapers, but you never sense for yourself your country's changing moods. "The West Wing cocoon removes a president so far from any semblance of a normal life," observed a Bush White House aide, "that he loses the most important asset a successful politician has — his connection to the people who elected him."



Gossip by fax

That is why George Bush failed to realise how much the recession was hurting his countrymen and crashed to one of the most spectacular defeats in America's history. It is why Ronald Reagan failed to comprehend what a terrible political blunder he committed by trading arms for hostages. It is a pitfall Bill Clinton is doing his utmost to avoid, though his campaign pledge to take campaign-style bus tours is unfulfilled.

He has a certain advantage. The patrician Mr Bush had no real roots anywhere save Washington, which is in America but assuredly not of it. The populist Mr Reagan had no real interest in anyone but Nancy. Mr Clinton, by contrast, was not only born and raised in Arkansas, but returned after Oxford and Yale and spent 12 years as its governor. That small, backward, half-southern and half mid-western state remains, to a remarkable degree, his link to the real world.

One of Mr Clinton's first acts as president was to order a special postcode so that his Arkansas friends could write to him privately. He has placed a personal fax machine outside the Oval Office on which they send him jokes, Arkansas gossip and words of encouragement. He has opened a Little Rock office through which any fellow Arkansan can send him advice — and they do.

He was inundated with protests when he sought to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military. "They said to me the real problem was that the American people thought that's all I was working on," Mr Clinton told one recent interviewer. They were even more upset by reports of his $200 haircut: "They all called. They said, 'God, if he's really done that, he's really lost it'."

One old friend wrote to say he could not begin to understand the North American free trade agreement, so Mr Clinton rewrote all his Nafta speeches with him in mind. "I think a lot of people from Arkansas see it as a part of their responsibility, almost a part of their patriotism, to keep me connected to the real world," the president said.

Mr Clinton hobnobs with world leaders and Hollywood stars, but his closest friends remain Arkansans and he draws heavily on them for moral and political support.

There are dozens in his administration. Headed by Thomas "Mack" McLarty, his chief of staff, and Bruce Lindsey, his aide-de-camp, they are probably the only sub-set that outnumber Rhodes scholars. Last week he appointed Carolyn Staley, his boyhood next-door-neighbour, as deputy director of the National Institute for Literacy. Each week groups of volunteers travel from Arkansas to help out in the White House.

The President has slipped back to Arkansas more often than he has visited Camp David. Most Saturday nights he telephones Rex Horne, his old pastor at Little Rock's Immanuel Baptist Church, for a private chat and guidance.

HE REGULARLY invites Arkansan friends to stay at the White House including Liza Ashley, his former cook at the governor's mansion, and "Miss Dorothy" Moore, his aged telephone receptionist.

He has invited other Arkansans exiled in Washington to the White House theatre to watch the University of Arkansas basketball team, and gathered to reminisce with them in a Washington restaurant after the suicide of Vincent Foster, his childhood friend and deputy White House counsel. "These people are my friends. They'd be my friends if I was running a gas station," he insisted.

Mr Clinton draws more than political and spiritual sustenance from Arkansas. When Washington's water supply was declared undrinkable last week he was unperturbed: the President, it transpired, has a personal supply of bottled Arkansas mineral water.

If Dr Jenkins is right, we have no fear of eternal damnation. **Martin Ivens** reports

A brief history of hell

On the island of Lewis a hellfire and brimstone minister warned in lip-smacking detail of the terrible, eternal torments in the afterlife if his congregation failed to mend its ways. "And when you're down in the fiery pit, weeping and gnashing your teeth it will be no good looking up to Heaven and pleading 'Lord, we didna ken, we didna ken'," said the minister. "God will look down from his heavenly throne and reply: 'Well, ye ken noo.'"

Does the Bishop of Durham, Dr David Jenkins, ken?

At a conference for Anglican lay readers, Dr Jenkins challenged traditional Christian teaching on the afterlife: "I am clear that there can be no hell for eternity — our God could not be so cruel," adding: "However, I think for some people who have wasted every opportunity for redemption there may be extinction ... I do not think it possible to believe any longer in a literal Second Coming of the end of the world."

Although Dr Jenkins has a habit of deliberately courting controversy by the flippant manner in which he expresses his opinions, his doubts about the literal existence of eternal punishment are not particularly original. More than a thousand years ago Church Fathers were asking how an omnipotent, loving God could sentence man, his created work, to eternal punishment.

The early accounts of Dr Jenkins's opinions were incomplete, so his more orthodox Christian critics may want to read a fuller version of his views before responding. On a number of other matters central to Christian doctrine it would be interesting, for instance, to hear whether Dr Jenkins believes in the immortality of the soul and in the reality of any punishment in an afterlife. And if there is no hell, is there a Heaven?

Does Dr Jenkins acknowledge the eschatological nature of the Christian Gospel? Long ago Albert Schweitzer pointed out that the expectation of the imminent end of the world was a central aspect of the gospel accounts of the teaching of Jesus. If he denies a literal Second Coming, in what sort of metaphorical end does Dr Jenkins believe?



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A detail from Hieronymus Bosch's *Hell, from the Right Wing of the Garden of Earthly Delights*

Doubtless his Grace was stirred by gloomy childhood memories of the religious pornography so memorably satirised by James Joyce in his *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* and Father Dolan's hellfire sermon. In ages past hell served the same function as today's horror films. The elaborate sufferings of the damned, the naked bodies of men and women subjected to elaborate tortures by horned (or "horny"?) little creatures strikes the modern imagination as vindictive and indecent. Snooty intellectuals think hell is a bit common, too.

We also feel uneasy that we share our medieval ancestors' suspect fascination for hell. We enjoy passages from the *Inferno* in Dante rather more than we do reading about uplifting *Paradise*. Prints of Hieronymus Bosch in student digs tell us more about the morbid psychology of the undergraduate than his interest in art.

However, hell is a potent metaphor. It arises from deeply-seated human needs. "It reassures us that justice reigns in the cosmos, that evil is punished, especially the evil done to us by our enemies. Moreover, it motivates people to virtue. If love won't make us virtuous, then perhaps fear will," says the astringent American religious critic, Andrew Greeley.

Or as Cardinal Newman put it rather more elegantly in his *Grammar of Assent*, "Retributive justice is the very attribute under which God is primarily brought before us in the teachings of natural conscience. The arguments about the existence of hell and eternal punishment have curious echoes of the contemporary secular debate between liberals and conservatives about the use and duration of punishment for living criminals.

As old as civilisation itself are tales of the afterlife. The visit of the eponymous hero of the Epic of Gilgamesh to hell was written on clay tablets in Babylon as long ago as the second millennium BC. The Egyptian Book of the Dead hints of suffering in an afterlife and describes the judgment of the deceased.

Hell in other mythologies is sometimes a place where the dead are imprisoned in order to protect the living from their envious attentions. Otherwise, it can be place of shadows, a half-existence. Through the lips of the dead hero, Achilles, Homer memorably paints a gloomy view of the underworld

O shining Odysseus, never try to console me for dying.
I would rather follow the plough as thrall to another man,
one with no land allotted to him and not much to live on,
than be a king over all the perished dead

But western prophetic religions are agreed that hell is for the damned. In the ancient Persian faith founded by Zoroaster, the soul is weighed to see how good or evil it is. If good then the Bridge of the Requiter broadens and the saved goes to Heaven; if judged evil the bridge narrows and the soul falls into hell. In Islam the damned fall into a fiery crater where they suffer torments. Eastern religions and philosophies often regard hell as a temporary abode, a stage to be visited and revisited through a cycle which ends in escape from the ordeal of reincarnation. The Jews had Sheol ("The Pit") and Gehenna as abodes of punishment.

> 'If he denies a literal Second Coming, in what sort of metaphorical end does the Bishop of Durham believe?'

The Christian Church taught that after a life of sin and failure to repent the sinner had denied God. The chief torment of hell therefore consists in exclusion from God's presence and in suffering from an inextinguishable but unspecified "fire". But even the very orthodox believe that the existence of hell as willed by an omnipotent God who could otherwise soften the heart of each and every sinner, is a mystery.

Some early Church fathers faltered in their belief in eternal punishment. Origen interpreted St Paul's words that "God will be all in all" to question the eternity of hell and the literalistic view of hell as a fiery place. In his *De Principiis*, Origen says that even the devils will undergo a long course of purification and be saved at last.

Today theologians like Dr Jenkins may argue that hell is a separation of the evil from the good. And some Christians echo the reply of Marlowe's Mephistopheles to Dr Faustus's question: "How comes it then that thou art out of hell?".

Mephistopheles answers: "Why this is hell, nor am I out of it."

Cuckoo-land courses

Britain's NCVQs are not a patch on proper vocational learning

Alan Smithers, professor of education at Manchester University, who says the new system of vocational education is "a disaster of epic proportions", is to be congratulated for his verbal restraint. What he describes in his report, "All our Futures — Britain's Educational Revolution", is a system of such utter madness that it must surely provoke all those ensnared by it to a revolution of an altogether bloodier sort. Since this blanket of stupidity is intended to smother three-quarters of our over-16s and their teachers (including all our future plumbers, electricians, skilled workers and wealth creators in variety who don't follow the A-Level route), this is no small uprising we are talking about.

You may be less inclined to think the professor exaggerates if I quote him more fully: "For the best of motives, and from a romantic and impractical idealism, the NCVQ (National Council for Vocational Qualifications) seems to be perpetrating a disaster of epic proportions." We have been here before: romantically, idealistically and disastrously abolishing streaming and whole-class teaching. Plowdenising the primary schools, closing the special schools... And so on, for the best of motives.

The task for which the government set up the NCVQ was taxing but clear. It was to clear a path through the jungle of vocational diplomas offered by 300-plus separate bodies, to impose order on chaos so that students, trainers and employers could all see where they were going. BTec, the Royal Society of Arts and City & Guilds all had a reputation for running good, sound courses, but what was missing was a framework whereby students could use them as building blocks.

The NVQ (National Vocational Qualification) was supposed to provide that framework for young adults in further education colleges and/or on-the-job training, and the GNVQ (General National Vocational Qualification) was supposed to provide it for post-16s at school. This is the "vocational A-Level" that John Patten expects half of all schoolchildren to take eventually.



MARGOT NORMAN

Nothing wrong with the plan. What went wrong is that the NCVQ, an unaccountable body of which few have heard, got power-hungry, went way beyond its administrative brief and decided, in the words of Dr Gilbert Jessup, its deputy director, to "send shock waves through the whole system".

Here are a few of the shocks that Professor Smithers and his team, funded by David Sainsbury's Gatsby Foundation, uncovered. The underlying philosophy, based on simplistic behavioural psychology, is that if you can do something (like wire up a chandelier or instal a bath), then you have demonstrated that you know and understand all that is necessary for the task. So out go knowledge and theory. Syllabuses are banned. Instead, teachers have lists of dozens of tasks their students are supposed to be able to perform by the end of the course. Textbooks are also banned, so the teachers have to waste endless time devising "student-centred" worksheets.

Written tests are out too, although the government insisted on these for schoolchildren with the result that, since neither students nor teachers knew what was to be learnt, the failure rate on some of these new courses has been 100 per cent. Here the plot thickens, because colleges only get 75 per cent of their promised payments from Training and Enterprise Councils if their students fail. Colleges will go bust if they fail students.

The NCVQ's pie-in-the-sky notion about assessment is that every single would-be plumber or electrician should have one of a vast new army of "national chief verifiers", "principal verifiers", "external verifiers", or just "assessors" watching him instal a bath or a chandelier. Then, hey presto, he's proved his competence. In vain, so far, have City & Guilds and companies protested that this is wildly expensive claptrap.

The NCVQ will refuse to recognise them if they don't do as they're told, so these once-proud institutions will also go bust unless they toe the line.

In practice, as tonight's Channel 4 *Dispatches* programme tries to show, mutiny and despair are brewing out there in the colleges. The television team homed in on an angry carpentry tutor who would like to murder Dr Jessup and his colleagues. He was supposedly assessing his students' work (having been designated both tutor and assessor, as this crazy system allows), but they had point-blank refused to fill in the logbooks on which their work is assessed.

The students were openly contemptuous of the new course, loudly nostalgic for the old City & Guilds. The tutor and his head of department had been complaining equally loudly, but nobody would listen and now, because all tutors had been reminded of the financial consequences of failing students, here they were faking the whole exercise. Hours stretched ahead of that tutor, ticking hundreds of irrelevant little boxes on an assessment form from cloud-cuckoo-land.

Prof. Smithers took a team of teachers from Barking and Dagenham, east London, round Germany, France and Switzerland. They came back convinced of three things: that vocational training standards there were impressive; that continental students were two or three years ahead of ours; and that a continental teacher's life (with no little boxes to tick) was simple and satisfying to a degree that they could only dream of. Simple, and yet German plumbers can do trigonometry to work out the proper angle of a drain while ours do it by eye, and German plumbers are actually *taught* the maths they need while in Britain the system infers that they know enough if all they can do is lay the drain.

"With all due respect, we are dealing with a lethal commodity here," as NG Bailey & Co put it when complaining about the electricians' NVQ. "Retention and understanding are crucial for this industry." And for all our other industries, I'd say.

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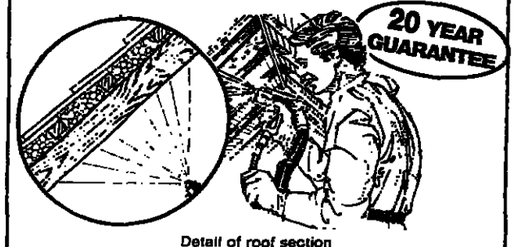
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Alan Coren



■ Have yourself a merry little Christmas present — I certainly did

There are, what?, nine shopping days to go, and I may not make it. Come Christmas Eve, I may be shopped out. This is bad news not only for me but for all the people who are depending on me for wrappers to rip off on Christmas Day so that their faces can light up, because it looks as if I shall need Christmas Eve to dash about on to buy the things to wrap to light the faces, and I may not make it. On Christmas Eve I may be supine, somewhere dark, on intravenous Glenlivet, no longer able to dash, park, rummage, queue, and, not least, pay.

Have you gone yet? Have you jinked across to Simon Jenkins, have you jabbed the basement button for the Diary, have you fled, trembling, to the Court Circular, crying, "I fear thee, Ancient Shopper, I fear thy skinny hand!"? A daft question if you have, since it can be addressed only to those who haven't, which is to say those who are not already articled out on Christmas-shopping journo-babble and can take no more, but that will not stop me, I need to tell someone about my cupboardful of albatrosses, because this guilt is not to be borne alone.

The albatrosses are all presents; but I did not buy them for anyone else, I bought them for me. They are just what I wanted. I did not know they were just what I wanted, but then I saw them and I knew and I bought them. This is what happens when you have a list.

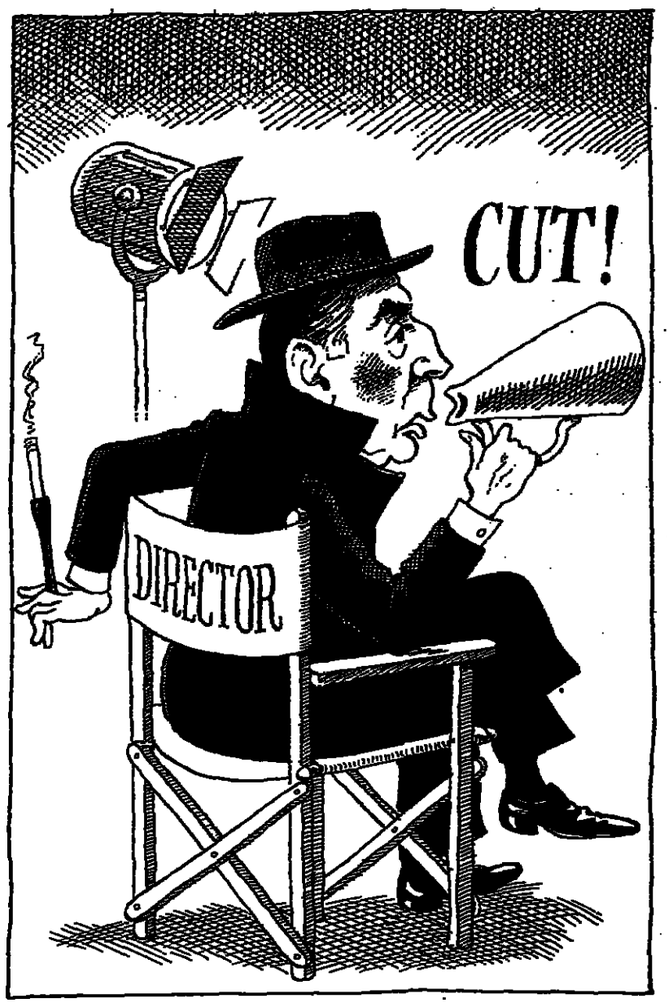
I had not had a list before. My habitual Christmas practice had been to rush around frenziedly on December 24, scooping up armfuls of unisex fragrances and books so that loved ones would have something to exchange on December 27. But this year, I wanted loved ones to have what they wanted, for once, so that they would love me back, so I made a lot of discreet phone calls, and a list. This year, that is, I got myself properly disorganised.

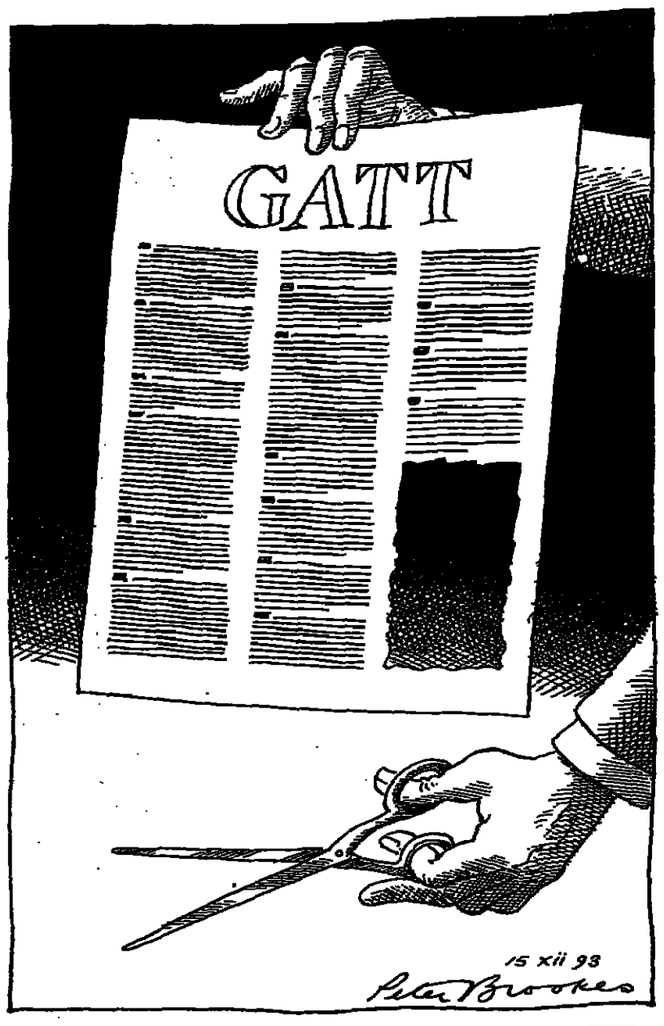
I have this niece whose mother said she wanted a Snoopy hair-drier. It stands free and a niece stands in front of it and her hair dries. Why you would want to dry your hair in dog's breath I cannot say, I am not a niece, but you get these things in Curry's, so I went there, and milled about in the mob until it was time for an assistant to tell me they had sold out of Snoopies, so I milled towards the door, and I was nearly out when I saw this titchy colour telly with a one-inch screen, only £79.95, and I wanted it so much that I queued until it was time for the meter attendant to come and do the thing with the windscreen, and then I sat in the car with what had become my £109.95 telly and watched the Varsity match. At least, I think it was the Varsity match; something played by ants, anyway.

On the next day I drove to Hamley's because I had a godson who wanted GWR rolling-stock and a god-daughter who wanted a doll that spoke French, and it took hardly more than an hour to discover I could not get either of these; what I could get, however, was an Amerang BB-gun for only sixty quid, which solved the problem of what to give a middle-aged, loft-bound hack who had always wanted something to poke out of the loft-window and shoot when the hacking struck an impasse. He did even better an hour later, when he was given a terrific hip-flask for only £175 in Burlington Arcade, in the shop bang next door to the one he went into to buy his wife a silk shirt in the exact colour they didn't have.

The day after was almost as good. You have to give booze to people to whom you can think of nothing else to give, but it doesn't have to be any old booze, it can be Calvados, say, or amaretto, and you can get both at Oddbins, which is good news for anyone who stands there having second thoughts about whether any of his loved ones actually likes Calvados or amaretto but then notices that Oddbins are doing such a fantastic deal on champagne not only at £9.99 per bottle but at 17.5 per cent off per case that he buys two cases, it is just the stuff to glug in a barren loft with your tiny telly chirping away and squirrels outside wondering what that thing was which just hit their fur very slowly and fell out again, how about another glass of fizz and an Armagnac chaser from this delightful hip-flask, after all, it *is* Christmas?

Or will be before you know it.





Babes in the Ulster wood

Major and Reynolds have let violence set their agenda, while the only possible solution to the troubles is ignored

Simon Jenkins

So they are looking at a "joint peace declaration". John Major and Albert Reynolds claim to be on the brink of answering the oldest question in the book, the Irish question, how to bring peace to a divided island. It may have defeated Cromwell, Gladstone, Lloyd George and Margaret Thatcher. But let not history stand in our way. The drafting team has reportedly found peace rather tough: after all, Britain and Ireland are not at war. So here is my declaration, for free:

"The British and Irish governments agree on Northern Ireland. They acknowledge that a nationalist desire for greater union with the South is fundamentally incompatible with a Unionist desire to stay part of the United Kingdom. This cannot be fudged. They therefore confirm that there can be no change in the constitutional status of Northern Ireland unless its people, and its people alone, vote for one in a referendum. They also confirm that existing North-South arrangements on security, trade and development will continue as before."

Full stop. Close quotes. End of declaration. End of phone calls. End of intergovernment talks. If Ireland wants to amend its constitution, removing the offensive claim to the North, excellent. That is Ireland's business. If, most implausibly, the IRA wants to shut up shop on the strength of some fudge, even better. But Britain's business is the good government of the Province, and to that Mr Major should turn his attention. I cannot believe that more Anglo-Irish Agreements are the way forward, however beguiling Mr Major finds his new friend in Dublin, Mr Reynolds.

Progress through the black thicket of Ulster politics has always been slow. Each step takes a decade to plan and most slide backwards. The last version of this week's impending deal came from Charles Haughey and Margaret Thatcher in 1985. Their Anglo-Irish Agreement was also intended to bring "peace, stability and reconciliation". Shootings and bombings doubled over the next three years. Mr Major and Mr Reynolds have pinned their colours to the same mast: "an end to violence" based on agreement between London and Dublin. What makes their mast so different?

Intelligence reports allege that the IRA is exhausted and its leaders suffering from a bad attack of maturity. If so, why did the Government fabricate the story that the IRA had initiated the "conflict is over" message saga? Gerry Adams may have tired of the struggle, but there are many rooms in the IRA mansion. Splits are how the Provisional IRA came into existence. More important, there is no sign that militant Unionism has suddenly gone so quiet as to accept a sanitised Sinn Fein at any talks table. Nobody can quarrel with taking one more step for peace. But governments are expected to be more sophisticated than peace marchers.

The suspicion is growing that in this matter Mr Major and Mr Reynolds are novices stumbling along a learning curve. At first sight, the seductive drafts out of Dublin should be no skin off any nose. What could be more natural than that the "collective aspirations of the Irish people for unity" be recognised by the British Government? Why not give a bit and talk of unity's "legitimacy and value"? Why not try a North-and-South referendum on unity, to see how it would come out? Why not toss a bone to that sincere Mr Adams?

At this point the old Dublin joke looks ominously true: the good news is that Mr Major is not bedevilled with Irish history, the bad news that he doesn't know any. Old Irish hands are still reeling at last month's Downing Street-MI6-IRA "messages". Nobody I met in Northern Ireland last week accepted that their apparent naïvety was double-bluff: that they were a dazzling gambit designed to traumatise and split the IRA command, that a ceasefire deal built round a cunning form of words would electrify Ulster politics.

You do not double-bluff the IRA. You surely do not double-bluff the Ulster Unionists. Perfidy-spotting runs in Unionist blood. For a century they have watched Whitehall wriggle and scheme to rid itself of Ulster. For a century they have played the Orange card at Westminster with lethal success. Edward Heath and Lady Thatcher made them swallow the detested All-Ireland Council, power-sharing and then the 1985 agreement, promising peace in return. There was no peace. Now London is up to its old tricks.

What is barely credible is that Downing Street can think that by keeping the official Unionist leader, James Molyneaux, informed during the Dublin talks the Unionist militant flank would be covered — though the Tories' parliamentary flank might be safer. That was the mistake that brought Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists into being in the 1970s. As for running parallel "peace" negotiations with the IRA behind the backs of both Dublin and Mr Molyneaux, how was that going to reassure either Mr Reynolds or the Unionist hardliners?

What I fear is the fallacy of this latest initiative — for all the cheering that will accompany its signature — is the old, tired quest for a linguistic formula that will "end violence". Only stretch enough men across the field, says the fallacy, and they will find a four-leaf clover. A declaration, an agreement, a peace deal, is surely there for the grasping. Do not be cynical. Peace is too great a prize.

I am cynical. This is no way to proceed. The thesis that, by tricking the IRA into a ceasefire, their active service units would atrophy is ludicrously optimistic. October's IRA Shankill bomb and last weekend's Tyrone shootings were intended not to strengthen Mr Adams's hand in his dealing with the British but to weaken it. They were perpetrated by the notoriously independent Ardoyne and the East Tyrone PIRA units. Hence Mr Adams's presence at the Shankill coffin-carrying ceremony to assert some authority with the dissidents. Hence Monday's desperate press conference by Sinn Fein's "peace party", threatening civil war if the Government did not make a substantive concession to nationalist aspirations.

The elusive Major-Reynolds declaration has now taken on a life of its own. It is bound up in wider relations with Dublin, with Brussels, with Washington and with John Major's need for a "success with no downside risk". But there is a risk, indeed a likelihood: more futile talks at Stormont about an assembly and power-sharing, another walk-out, another broken ceasefire, more deaths, more disillusion. That is what happens when politicians allow violence to set their agenda.

Civil conflicts are about politics. Violence is merely their symptom. In Northern Ireland Mr Major has become caught in a trap of his own making. He wants a negotiated end to violence that will come only after a structural reform to Ulster's politics. Yet he implies that such reform can come only after an end of violence. This inherent contradiction has dominated Downing Street thinking for 25 years. Those 25 years have also shown that the structural reform preferred by both Mr Major and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Ulster Secretary — a power-sharing executive at Stormont — will never work. Common sense denies it, as does Unionism. And while the former may not enjoy an in-built majority, the latter does.

The only political reform likely to make progress in Ulster is devolution, not to Stormont, but to restored democratic government at county and city level, with powers such as security reserved to a Secretary of State. In this way, Catholic and Protestant parties could exercise true majority control over different parts of the province, with statutory safeguards for minorities. Power would be "shared" territorially not politically.

This means an end to most of direct rule, to the orders in council and the colonial patronage by which Britain now governs Ulster with barely a shred of democracy. It means shelving the Irish sovereignty question *pro tem* in return for granting nationalists local power over perhaps as much as 40 per cent of the Province, including their *de facto* ascendancy in Derry. Unionists over the remaining 60 per cent. This reform would not confront the terrorists or bring them into negotiations. It would marginalise them. It would not end violence but would reduce it (as has occurred in Derry).

Such a plan would also marginalise a huge cast of players in London, Dublin and Belfast: go-betweens, spies, officials, fudge-fabricators and prime ministers. This week's declaration, which looks like being a masterpiece of fudge, would also be marginalised. That, I suspect, is why the powers that be find this reform one step too far to go for peace.

Ye priests of little faith

Church, not royalty, is in trouble, says **Woodrow Wyatt**

The Archdeacon of York was once described by the Archbishop of York as akin to the fat boy in *The Pickwick Papers*, "always wanting to make yer flesh creep". The Archdeacon has been doing that with his impertinent edict that the Prince of Wales is unfit to be king: having broken his marriage vows the Prince could not be trusted to keep his Coronation oath. Church of England clerics now squabble over the Archdeacon's ruling. Present at the last Coronation, I received a bound copy of the service. The oath which the Queen agreed to orally, and signed, concerned her doing her utmost to "maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant reformed religion established by law". There were details about the rights and privileges of bishops and the clergy and on governing those countries of which she is the head, "according to their respective laws and customs". There was nothing which could possibly debar a sovereign who might have committed adultery, been divorced or remarried.

Among the Queen's titles is Defender of the Faith, but which faith? The title was awarded to Henry VIII by the Pope in honour of a treatise written by Sir Thomas More with authorship credited to the King. We know what happened to Sir Thomas and about the breach between the King and the Pope, who refused him the divorce or annulment he sought. Currently, some 200 Church of England priests are waiting for the ordination of women to become law before they apply to become Roman Catholics — if they did it too soon they would not get compensation from the Church of England. It is widely thought they will be followed by hundreds more priests from the Church of England, which already allows its divorced priests to be remarried in church.

There is no crisis over the Prince's succession, which is unlikely to occur for at least 15 years. But the Church of England is in a highly critical state, far more in danger than the monarchy. Most who give it a nodding observance simply do not believe in its doctrines. They feel there may be a force which sets the stars and the planets in motion, but not that the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Pope or other religious leaders have a glimmering of what it is and why. The notion that such a force is interested in the minute details of our daily lives, keeping some vast computer register of our sins and virtues, looks increasingly absurd, as does the proposition that this force is on the side of justice and good against injustice and the wicked.

In common with many other religions, the Church of England has lost credibility. The teachings of Jesus Christ are respected for their wisdom rather than for their divinity. Though a sceptic, I always vote in the Lords for religious teaching in schools, which inculcates some moral basis, including the difference between right and wrong which Church of England clerics have for long seemed unable to grasp. Too many, and a number sit in the Lords, like to dabble in politics, ignoring Christ's dictum, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's" (Mark Ch.12, v.17).

As the Church of England has so little general or deep-felt backing, the case for its disestablishment, and the removal of its representatives from Parliament, is overwhelming. But as so often, there is a hitch over money. In 1703, Queen Anne's Bounty was confirmed by statute for the purpose of augmenting the livings of the poorer Anglican clergy. The fund, on which parliamentary questions are allowed, was huge when it started and amounted to £3 billion a few years ago, since when foolish investments have reduced it to £2.2 billion. Doubtless the statute could be repealed and the money handed over to the Church on disestablishment. Simultaneously, voting on Church laws by members of both Houses of Parliament, with different creeds or none, should cease. Then the Church of England could concentrate on obeying the bibilical injunction, "Set thine house in order" (Isaiah Ch. 38, v.1).

No hiding place

THE RUCHED curtains in Upper Cheyne Row, one of Chelsea's smartest streets, are distinctly a-flutter. For the genteel London address has a new resident — the wayward heir to Blenheim Palace, the Marquess of Blandford.

Blandford has rented one of the humbler cottages at the west end of the street, and has already managed to put some of London's best-turned noses out of joint by parking his Range Rover on the pavement. These days escorted by girl friend Arabella Zamoyski, the reformed drug-addict would be wise not to push his neighbours' patience further.

According to one, John Casson, a communications consultant and cousin of Sir Hugh Casson, "the area is very much a village community. We take our neighbourliness seriously. We look after each other's keys." It seems unlikely that Blandford will enter this cosy coterie.

And if he needs an escape route, perhaps he should have taken into account the fact that his new home backs onto the private Jamahiriya School for London-based Libyans — not perhaps the best place through which to attempt one of his famous rapid exits. In June, when police arrived to arrest him at a previous west London address for non-payment of maintenance to his estranged wife Becky, they found an empty flat and an open upstairs window with a 14ft drop to the rear garden.

A repeat performance looks unlikely. "There is an alarm system here, the wall is high and nobody gets over it," a school spokesman points out firmly. "We respect our neighbours and they respect us. Nobody disturbs us here." Not even, the Marquess of Blandford, one suspects.

● *Fresh from his success in Iraq, Sir Edward Heath has been in Turkey where, among other things, he addressed business leaders on the huge opportunities that the lifting of Turkey's trade barriers with the European Union will bring. He was less keen on progress elsewhere. Heath was spotted in the VIP lounge of Istanbul airport looking wistfully at a picture of Kemal Ataturk, the country's westernising leader. "And now they have a woman prime minister," he mused. "Don't they learn from our mistakes?"*

DIARY

Weekend break

FRIENDS of Sir Adrian Cadbury were delighted to read of his engagement to Susan Sinclair in *The Times* on December 4. So they were more than a little surprised to read in last Saturday's *Times* that the 74-year-old millionaire was not certain who his chosen companion would be for his perfect weekend. He was, he said, "open to offers".



"I took the invitation to write the thing as not being entirely serious," he confesses. "Susan was not offended. She put in the first offer — and it was accepted." The snag now is finding a perfect weekend for the wedding. Apart from all his business interests, Cadbury, of the chocolate family, becomes High Sheriff of the West Midlands next year. "I hope to sort out my diary with Susan over Christmas. Life is quite complicated."

Up the wall

IT MAY be little comfort to Kathy Etchingham, the 47-year-old former lover of Jimi Hendrix who has persuaded the Government to reconsider the case of the guitarist's death. But English Heritage is on the point of marking his passing by placing one of its coveted blue plaques on the West End flat where he lived for two years.

A final nod is expected within weeks for the first such plaque to a pop star, whose strains of violent guitar music could not be more different from the harmonies of a musician who lived in the next door house in Brook Street. George Frideric Handel.

Card sharps

MORE Yuletide trouble for the Arts Council. Not only has it used a picture of the "angel of death" for its official Christmas card, but the same picture is now adorning brochures for the celebrations for next year's City of Drama theatre jamboree in Manchester. The use of the picture to advertise the event, sponsored by the Arts Council, will be further irritation to the National Theatre, from whose production of Tony Kushner's *Perestroika* the picture was taken — without the National's permission.

The Christmas card fiasco could have been avoided, it turns out, if the Arts Council had accepted City of Drama's suggestion for an illustration — Day-Glo turkeys, plucked from its current production *A Christmas Grotto*. The Arts Council turned it down, according to a City of Drama insider, "saying it was too controversial. We thought that they would have gobbled it up."

● *Yesterday's Foyles literary lunch in Mayfair witnessed a rare agreement between Neil Kinnock and Lord Owen. Discussing Sir David Frost's autobiography, From Congregations to Audiences, Kinnock attributed Frost's success as an interviewer to the fact that he spends so much time relaxing his guests. "You feel you are just having a chat with a friend over breakfast until he says 'How fascinating'. Then you know he is about to destroy your reputation."*





Chancellor and Self have brought a classic up to date

Pantomime in an alternative vein

SLEEPING Beauty has been brought up to date for a production this week in London's Notting Hill. Very up to date — her father believes she has a heroin problem. Happily, father is mistaken: the beauty's somnolence in The Wicked Theatre Company's charity pantomime is but the witch's curse which, as we all know, is caused by a sewing needle. "When she gets pricked, she cries 'Help. The needle', and her father thinks she has a drug problem," says Anna Chancellor, who plays the Queen. Such parental concern is understandable — the programme notes are written by novelist Will Self, who makes no secret of his past familiarity with the syringe. But even unorthodox productions have happy endings. Sleeping Beauty is rescued from the nightmare kingdom of "Iurviedom" by a downmarket comedian. "She does escape with her suitor," explains author Kevin Allen. "She ends up doing the working men's club circuit in Wales."

هكذا من الأصل

CEMBER 15 1993

priests little aith

.. nor royalty trouble, says Irow Wyatt

هكذا من الاصل

THE NEW MOSCOW

Summiteers must tread carefully towards the next peak

Al Gore, the American vice-president, meets Boris Yeltsin in Moscow today to discuss the order of priorities for next month's summit meeting with Bill Clinton. He has already heard a torrent of predictions, some of them cataclysmic, from Russians themselves. He has also expressed the hope that the need to forge and sustain a majority for reforms in the new parliament will discipline Russia's democrats. Any further public comments will need great care. Vladimir Zhirinovsky has found eager ears for his battle-cry that Russians have been betrayed by their governing élites and foreign supporters.

Top of the early summit agenda should be the handling, by both Russia and the West, of relations with Ukraine. The strong showing for communists and revanchist fascists in the Russian elections only makes this issue the more urgent. President Kravchuk has made some effort to overcome his country's endemic distrust of Russian imperialism and put relations on a business-like footing. In July, he agreed to the creation of a "single economic space"; and in September, with Ukraine sliding into economic catastrophe, he agreed to sell Moscow Ukraine's share in the Black Sea fleet and to ship its nuclear warheads to Russia for dismantling. But his parliament has stalled these initiatives, and both Russian and American intelligence services suspect Ukraine of seeking to gain operational control over its nuclear arsenal by cracking the codes held in Moscow.

Sunday's election results, which Mr Kravchuk dubbed a vote for the "tsarist empire", will make the Ukrainian parliament even less inclined to give up its nuclear arsenal, let alone to follow the example of Kazakhstan, which this week ratified the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Ukraine's attempts to use its nuclear arsenal as a bargaining chip has not only exasperated Nato, from which it seeks security guarantees, but played into the hands of Russian hardliners. In the light of the Russian military's strong support for Mr Zhirinovsky, Mr Clinton should seek an unequivocal restatement by Mr Yeltsin that Russia has no designs on the Crimea.

That is vital. The economic collapse of Ukraine, with all that implies for regional instability, is so imminent that strategy should no longer be confined to nuclear disarmament. The country's plight is an object lesson to those who want to reverse reforms in Russia, for in the absence of reforms, Ukraine's currency is worthless, hyper-inflation now exceeds 70 per cent a month, staple foods are unavailable and an energy crisis has forced the government to keep Chernobyl open. An economic compact with Russia, on which Ukraine depends heavily for raw materials, will be an essential component of any plan to avert disaster. But that is inconceivable unless Moscow allays Ukrainian fears.

Inflation, this time in Russia, also needs to be high on the summit agenda. The future thrust of Russia's economic policies has been thrown into question just when inflation was falling, the rouble was stable and its foreign trade surplus was growing healthily. Mr Yeltsin will be tempted to jettison the further austerity measures announced last month by Boris Fyodorov, his finance minister, who meets Group of Seven officials on Friday to discuss Russia's foreign exchange needs.

Mr Yeltsin still governs Russia, and the new constitution gives him extensive power to set foreign and domestic policies. By 1996, when Mr Zhirinovsky has announced that he will run for the presidency, reforms could be beginning to pay dividends for ordinary Russians — provided Mr Yeltsin stays what will be a terribly tough course. Mr Clinton should pledge redoubled co-operation to ease the pain of reforms, injecting more urgency into the creation of an effective social security cushion. The European Union must finally come off the fence and agree now to generous access to its markets for Russian products. Mr Yeltsin has a tendency to equivocate when opposition mounts. This summit must be aimed at engaging him firmly for economic reform, anchored by the ties of Western friendship.

TO HELL FROM DURHAM

More thoughtful provocation from the Bishop

Depictions of Hell reached their most lurid in the Middle Ages with the paintings of Hieronymus Bosch. Since then, Christians have treated the notion of eternal torment by fire and brimstone as rather more metaphorical than literal. The deterrent of punishment in the after-life for sins committed on Earth has always been a useful stick for priests to wave over congregations. But the Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev David Jenkins, is not alone in believing that threat of the Book of Revelations — "they will be tormented day and night for ever and ever" — should be taken no more literally than the natural history of Genesis.

Christianity is not the only religion that postulates the existence of Hell. The Talmud speaks of the fire of Gehenna being "sixty times as hot as the fire of this earth". And the Koran warns that "They who believe not shall have garments of fire fitted unto them; boiling water shall be poured on their heads; their bowels shall be dissolved thereby, and also their skins; and they shall be beaten with maces of iron." But Judaeo-Christians are unique in postulating Hell as eternal damnation for their own kind. Muslims reserve it for unbelievers, and Hindus and Buddhists see it as only a transitory stage in the progress of the soul.

Most intelligent people who have tried to depict Hell as a raging torment have either descended into macabre humour, like Bosch, or have ended up engaging sympathy for the poor souls who have descended there and for Satan himself, the unlikely hero of Milton's *Paradise Lost*. More convincing have been those who have tried to read metaphorical meanings into the punishment, such as Jean-Paul Sartre in *Huis Clos*, where Hell is other people; or perhaps the Bishop of Durham himself, who believes that Hell is inside ourselves.

In the Middle Ages, priests treated their parishioners as children, and since few churchgoers could even read or write, they were not expected to be able to think for themselves. But by the Reformation, the new Protestants were sickened by the practice of indulgences, through which a payment of money could secure for sinners a "Get out of Hell free". Today's literate observers of the Christian faith can be expected to grapple with the ethics that Christ taught and to adopt a moral code that relies for its observance not on fear of the consequences but on conscience. Mature Christians do not need to think of flames lapping round their ankles before deciding to do good.

None the less, some Churchmen will be outraged by the Bishop's comments. Each time he makes one of his more controversial comments, a few proclaim that the Church is not broad enough to include such belief. Bishops, they say, should have resolved their doubts before taking on a leadership role. But leaders are human. Even St John of the Cross had his dark night of the soul.

The usefulness of the Bishop of Durham's pronouncements is precisely that they do provoke those with a firmer faith to debate the mysteries of the Christian Church. And the argument extends beyond the normal circles of theologians and regular churchgoers. If only by making regular topics of conversation out of the Virgin birth, the resurrection and Hell, the Bishop may have done the Church a service.

ALL TIME GREATS

Man is an irrational creature with a passion for odd numbers



On Saturday *The Times* will announce the top 25 in its selection of the 100 best rock albums of all time. Readers who forecast the top ten correctly have a chance to win all 100 albums on the list. Readers who would rather eat coal than consider the merits of Bob Dylan versus The Pogues can, of course, ignore the whole event. But even single-minded lovers of baroque music, those who do not know whether to eat an "Awopbopaloobop Alopbamboom" watching out for the chillies, or to salute it as the greatest lyric ever written for rock, are susceptible to the inveterate human delight in lists.

Among rock fans our selection has already created uproar; such is the perverse attraction of man's passion for arranging things in numerical order. Children spend hours selecting the greatest cricket team of all time to play the men with four arms from Mars. But the urge to list is not confined to children. Western literature arose from the original Miss Universe contest, in which a shepherd on Mount Ida was asked to pick the most beautiful goddess out of a short-list of three.

The list of anything worth listing is bound to be controversial, even when it is chosen by an individual. Any single lister blessed with even a scruple of mortal indecision constantly changes his or her selection of music for *Desert Island Discs*. Selection by a committee, as with the 100 best rock albums, cannot satisfy anybody, not even a single member of the committee. But such lists open debate. Herein lies the argumentative pleasure of short-lists, books listing the 100 best modern novels, and tables of the greatest books in world literature, to be read at the rate of so many a week by spoonfed American students.

The 100 best rock albums are under attack for being too bland, too middle-of-the-road, and too way-out; so the committee has got it about right. Incredibly, say some, it includes no Genesis, no Dire Straits, no Simply Red. Why so little authentic reggae, funk and world music? And why so many who have become living legends by persistence and publicity beyond the call of talent? The list ought surely to include more black, British, and women musicians, not for politically correct reasons, but because rock is music that they are good at. Since the simple Sixties, rock and pop music have split into as many jarring sects as the primitive church.

Because man is a creature torn between reason and emotion, half of him yearns to be given a straight answer to his judgments. Since the Babylonians sought to organise the planets by sums, humans have been trying to simplify life by lists. But the pain, and pleasure, of the human condition is that no such simple certainties are on its shopping-list. Man has to make his individual, provisional judgments. And carry on making his choices to the music of time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Nationalist swing in Russian polls

From Professor Alexander Kennaway

Sir, The success of Fascists and Communists in the Russian elections (reports, December14) should occasion no surprise.

Opinion polls carried out last year showed that the Russian people were anxious, in descending order, about the break-up of Russia, about the failure of their government to deal with the deteriorating economy and about law and order.

Reform, as advocated by the Gaidar government and encouraged by Western macro-economists, has provided shock without therapy; it has reduced the ordinary honest Russian to beggary. Small wonder that masses have voted for "strong" government. Macro-economics unaccompanied by improvement of the business competence of the leaders of enterprises were always doomed.

Experienced Westerners in industry, farming and distribution, as well as in company law and clearing banking, can do a lot to help the country move toward normality without massive expense, but the longer the economy is allowed to deteriorate under the influence of inappropriate economic theories the harder the job becomes.

Hitherto the Russian people have been remarkably and commendably free of the extreme nationalism which these victories now presage. The lessons are for the Western aid agencies as well as for the Russian government to learn.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
A. KENNAWAY,
Conflict Studies Research Centre,
Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.
December 14.

From Mr Mariusz Kuklinski

Sir, Professor Lawrence Freedman's plea to the West ("Ukraine is the test for Russia", December 14) not to snub Yeltsin as he might be followed by a far more reactionary leader of the nuclear power that Russia is introduces personalities into strategic thinking.

Balance of power offers much more solid security than the unsteady moods of leaders, who — apart from the vagaries of democracy — are not immortal. The need for four Trident nuclear submarines seems to me to be much more obvious today than it was a week ago.

With regards,
MARIUSZ KUKLINSKI,
5 Denehurst Gardens, W3.
December 14.

From Mr Frank Allaun

Sir, It is the so-called reforms in Russia which have brought increasing poverty to the people there. So desperate are they that, in their misery, millions have turned to a Fascist-minded demagogue.

It is small wonder that your editorial of December 8 asked: "How different would a world without Gorbachev have been?" Social forces are usually more powerful than individuals, it is true. Yet the likelihood, indeed the certainty, is that, without his courageous leadership, the world would still be deep in Cold War waters, with the arms race growing more menacing every year, not to mention the soaring cost of war preparations.

It was not just Mikhail Gorbachev's speeches — his actions counted for more: for instance, his vast unilateral cuts starting in December 1988, when he slashed the Soviet armed forces by 500,000 servicemen, 8,000 tanks and 800 bombers, or when he imposed a 15-month embargo on his country's nuclear test explosions without waiting for other countries.

These moves are now saving the West tens of billions of pounds a year. In fact, many of us can see no purpose at all in Britain's arms bill of £23.5 billion a year, and even less reason for Trident and nuclear missiles, which can wipe out whole cities and their innocent civilian populations 6,000 miles away.

Gorbachev's second great achievement was *glasnost*. This policy of openness has given the former Soviet Union greater freedom of speech, assembly and media than the country has known in its history, along with opening a multi-party system. All that is despite Mr Yeltsin's moves to put the clock back. Hopes of a socialist society without the Kremlin dictatorship still inspires millions.

It was the third change, *perestroika* or reconstruction, which caused President Gorbachev's downfall. Europe is sending businessmen and professors to introduce capitalism. Most Russians do not thank them for it, and who can blame them?

How would *our* working people react if national production was reduced yearly by up to 12 per cent; if the former full employment was replaced by millions on the streets as huge industrial undertakings closed down; if prices, rents and fares soared beyond reach; and if race hatred spread throughout the land?

Western governments, bankers and the media claim they want to see democracy in the former Russian empire. I don't believe they care a damn about democracy. They are much more interested in the former USSR as a field for financial investment, a source of cheap labour and a market for goods they cannot sell at home.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK ALLAUN
(President, Labour Action for Peace),
11 Eastleigh Road, Manchester 25.

Classical recordings

From Mr Roger Lewis

Sir, While it is true to say, as the Policy Study Institute does, that sales of classical recordings in 1992 were down "by more than a quarter" on 1990 (report, December 9), this statistic by itself gives no insight into the overall development of the classical market. Over the decade 1982-92, sales of classical albums soared from 5.4 million units to 12.3 million. During the same period, those sales as a proportion of all album sales grew from 6.1 per cent to 9.2 per cent, demonstrating classical's increasing importance.

The assertion that "classical music has not sustained its 'new popularity' " is naive insofar as it implies that successes such as the three tenors album can simply be contrived; while the classical labels are taking a more commercial outlook than they once did, success on the scale of the three tenors project is in no small part a function of undefinable (and therefore uncontrollable) factors.

Further, the statement that "the genre has still not filtered into the mass market" is contradicted by British Phonographic Industry research findings. These show that the popularity of the three tenors, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Nigel Kennedy and Gorecki's Third Symphony over the last five years has ensured that more people than ever are purchasing and listening to classical recordings.

While it may be true that most purchasers of such recordings are over 45 and economically advantaged, this refers only to the weight of purchase rather than penetration of classical recordings, which may be a more appropriate measure when discussing popularisation.

In addition, older people are furthest removed from the contemporary pop music scene and are thus far more likely to be interested in other kinds of music such as classical.

Yours truly,
ROGER LEWIS
(Director), Classical Division,
EMI Records (UK),
20 Manchester Square, W1.
December 10.

Church finances

From Mr Ian M. Golds

Sir, Mr D. M. Clement (letter, November 25; also letters, December 1) is not alone in wondering whether services provided by each diocese of the Church of England could not be more economically developed on a shared basis by dioceses grouped together.

However, some in the Church feel the present dioceses are too large for the diocesan bishop to know, and be known within, all parishes. Indeed, we have seen several dioceses divided into episcopal areas with the area bishops fulfilling much of what was previously the diocesan bishop's role.

Time has perhaps come for a thorough-going review of diocesan organisation encompassing, but not restricted to, the cost-benefit analysis proposed by Mr Clement; pastoral and ecclesiological considerations should surely be taken into account along with purely financial factors.

The right way forward might be found to lie in increasing the number of provinces (the present division of England into two seems to make little sense today), sharing many present diocesan services on a provincial basis, and promoting episcopal areas and suffragan sees to diocesan status.

Yours faithfully,
I. M. GOLDS
(Churchwarden, St John's,
Upper Norwood, 1986-93),
33 Wakefield Gardens, SE19.

Millionaire conman

From Mr Richard Hornsby

Sir, Valerie Grove's profile of Nicholas Young ("Millionaire conman who saw the light", December 3) portrays a reformed and reflective man on the road to redemption. She seems not to appreciate that it was Young's plausibility that lay at the heart of his skill. When he sent "letters of remorse" to his 62 victims from prison he even used that opportunity to offer some of them a new "investment" scheme through which they would make back all their money!

To those of us who have suffered from his fraud, including members of his own family, Young is a man with a disturbed personality who has shown no real signs of regret for what he has done. Instead, he has tried to capitalise on his criminal past — by interviews such as this one — portraying himself as someone curiously better and more interesting for what he has been through.

Meanwhile, his victims are forgotten — the old ladies, the pensioners, the charities, and those in troubled circumstances — all those whom he preyed on, and from whom he tried to steal everything. While Young has served his derisory sentence, his victims are still seeking compensation from his employers, Clark Kenneth Leventhall.

Five of our members have already died, others have been made bankrupt and homeless; the effects of Young'sactions have meant ruined lives, and ongoing misery.

It is galling for us to see Young using his fraudulent past to carve out this new role. Your profile has served him well as another stepping stone in his continued search for the limelight.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HORNSBY
(Chairman, The CKL Victims
Group Steering Committee),
8 Bovingdon Road, SW6.

With the postal delays that often occur at this time of year, it is useful, where possible, for letters to be faxed to 071-782 5046. Please give contact telephone numbers.

Fair funding for higher education

From Mr Nicholas S. Ruane

Sir, Your leader of December 7, "Higher ambitions", states: "University teaching should be funded primarily by its beneficiaries." This notion, together with the views of John Patten (*The Times* Essay, December 6), offers an idealistic, bordering on Utopian, view of students' financial situations and the labour market into which graduates enter.

Many students currently face debt without being required to pay their lecturers' wages. The additional cost that would be incurred by paying tuition fees would be of a considerable amount, which the Government suggests would be financed by the adoption of student loans.

These loans are a further financial burden on students (not all of whom, despite what the Chancellor said in his Budget speech (report, December 1), are "tomorrow's lawyers"). As graduate unemployment is now at a record level, there is no guarantee of a steady, let alone above-average, income with which to pay back these loans. Thousands of potential students will therefore be deterred from entering higher education for fear of accumulating huge debts at university.

John Major has a commendable "vision of Britain" as a better educated nation, with a high-quality workforce to rival countries such as Japan. However, since employers and ultimately British society as a whole are benefited by the results of university tuition as much as the students themselves, is higher education not a time to aid and encourage students rather than to charge them?

Yours faithfully,
N. S. RUANE,
1 Ridgepark Drive,
Lanark, Strathclyde.
December 7.

From Mr C. G. O'Dowd

Sir, The extension of the student grant system from the 1960s was a policy which served this country well, by giving the nation a greater pool of undergraduates from all types of background.

It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the present Government's policy is regressively aimed at restoring higher education to the preserve of the children of the wealthy. Setting aside self-interest, it is extremely short-sighted to restrict the potential pool of distinguished graduates in this way.

With this in mind it was disappointing to see your leader encouraging the Government on this track. I fail to see the logic in setting up a further tier of bureaucracy to oversee the transfer of the burden of higher education costs from one group of taxpayers to another.

Without casting any shadow on the products of their system, I do not share your enthusiasm for allowing our higher education system to become an imitation of the Australian scheme. I would rather reflect on the many academics and fine minds to emerge from our own university system.

It is sad that our Prime Minister is not in a position to appreciate this.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER G. O'DOWD,
6 Glendale Close, Pagmoor,
Barnsley, South Yorkshire.
December 7.

From Professor Sir Graham Hills

Sir, Your otherwise excellent editorial is marred in two respects.

First, you perpetuate the myth that the Robbins report actively supported the universities' dependence on direct government funding. It did not.

Secondly, you write of the burden of higher education as you would the burden of debt or disease. Higher education is not a burden. Rather, it is the best investment that can be made by government, by industry and, of course, by its direct beneficiaries, the undergraduates.

The principal purpose of financially disestablishing the universities is therefore not to relieve the Treasury of a burden but to enable universities to continue to develop and prosper according to their own lights and by their own efforts. Given such an opportunity, they could transform our society and its economy.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM HILLS,
Sunnyside of Threepwood,
Laigh Threepwood, Beith, Ayrshire.
December 7.

Arts Council under fire

From Mr Michael Dobbs

Sir, Taxpayers' patronage for the arts is akin to parenthood; certain disciplines must be set, yet there is an inherent independence in the offspring which must be respected and indeed nurtured, even when that independence expresses itself through ingratitude and rebelliousness.

The role of the Arts Council (letters, December 11) is easily derided as that of nanny, yet it provides the vital function of keeping paternalist politicians at arm's length while ensuring some form of grudging responsibility by the recipients to the taxpayer, maintaining, if you like, what might be termed the balance of error between politician and artist.

What is particularly sad during this latest round of self-interested bickering is the personal abuse which is being directed at the council's chairman, Peter Palumbo. During his tenure as chairman he has achieved an overall increase of some 16 per cent in real terms in the council's budget; the current cash cut is but one setback in what has been from the point of view of the arts a uniquely successful campaign.

His vision for a culturally enriched millennium has been adopted by the Government. The Arts 2000 programme, which nominates a city or region of culture for each year up to the end of the century, was his personal initiative, as was the establishment of the British Literature Prize.

Very modestly, and usually very privately, he has used his own considerable personal wealth for repeated acts of artistic patronage.

Oh, if only there were more private patrons like Lord Palumbo! Then, perhaps, we would not need an Arts Council.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL DOBBS,
Bilshay Dairy Farmhouse,
Dottery, Bridport, Dorset.

From the Chairman of The London Philharmonic

Sir, Surely it is utterly inconceivable that the Arts Council can make a decision on the future of London's orchestras which is based on the, as yet, unpublished Hoffmann report (report, December 6; letters, December 7, 11). The Hoffmann committee was set up to select which orchestra best satisfied the Arts Council's criteria for a so-called "super-orchestra". It is now rumoured that the committee disagreed with the Arts Council's own criteria for such a decision, as well as finding that drawing any overall decision between the orchestras was unjust and impossible.

If this is so, then the Hoffmann report clearly does not give the Arts Council any mandate to change the current funding levels. Indeed, such a change would be based on an "arbitrary choice".

All three orchestras under threat made their submissions to the Hoffmann committee in good faith. I believe the Arts Council should act in similar good faith and publish the report rather than allow rumour and speculation to carry all before them. This whole debate has drastic implications for the musical life of the country and is therefore a matter of legitimate public interest.

Yours etc,
SIMON CHANNING, Chairman,
The London Philharmonic,
35 Doughty Street, WC1.

Upright citizens

From Mr Phil James

Sir, In your third leader this morning on the rediscovery of six Haydn piano sonatas, you say: "Moth and rust corrupt material treasures and antique dealers break in and steal."

Most of the antique dealing fraternity have never approached a premises with felonious intent, and we have a special sobriquet in the trade for those who do. We call them "thieves".

We no more wish to have our profession and our personal integrity constantly debased by the assumption that the occasional rotten apple constitutes the norm than you, Sir, I'm sure, would like it to be universally assumed that you are on the professional level of the journalist(s) who bought and published the pictures of Her Royal Highness doing her physical jerks.

Yours faithfully,
PHIL JAMES
(Head of Antiques Department),
New Moon Interiors Ltd,
98 Old Brompton Road, SW7.
December 14.

Truth to tell

From Mr David Harris

Sir, Is there some tablet which can be dissolved in the beverages of ministers and members of Parliament to produce a Pinocchio-like effect when they are economical with the truth (letters, December 3)? I suspect there would be many Cyrano look-alikes walking the corridors of power.

Yours truly,
D. HARRIS,
Cobweb, Rosemary Lane,
Haddenham, Buckinghamshire.
December 11.

Business letters, page 25

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 14: Mr Justice Mitchell was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.

His Excellency Dato Kassim Daud was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for Brunei Darussalam in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission: Mr Jaini Abdullah (First Secretary), Lieutenant Colonel Brahim Haji Jumahat (Defence Adviser), Mr Majid Mangarshah (Second Secretary), Mr Mohamad Haji Abdullah (Second Secretary), Mr Mahadi Maidin (Second Secretary), Mr Zulkifli Hussein (Third Secretary, Protocol), Pengiran Ali Pengiran Othman (Third Secretary, Recruitment/Training) and Mr Ismi Ahmid (Attaché, Education).

Datin Latifah Yaakub was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir David Gillmore (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr Oliver Miles (Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Athens) and Mrs Miles were received by The Queen.

Her Excellency Dr Ursula Barrow was received in audience by Her Majesty upon her appointment as High Commissioner for Belize in London.

Wing Commander Christopher Moran RAF was received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President, City and Guilds of London Institute, and Patron, the Fellowship of Prince Philip Medallists, this afternoon attended a Luncheon at Clothworkers' Hall, London EC3.

Sir Brian McGrath was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President, Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, this evening attended a Dinner at the Armourers' Hall, Coleman Street, London EC2.

Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.

December 14: The Duke of York, Patron, this evening attended the Round Square Dinner at St James's Palace.

Captain Rupert Maitland-Titterton was in attendance.

December 14: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, and Chairman, International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, this afternoon arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from the United States of America.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

December 14: The Princess Royal, Patron, SENSE, the National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, this afternoon attended the Deaf Accord's "Young Deaf Achievers" Luncheon and Awards Ceremony at the Café Royal, Regent Street, London W1.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, Chief Commandant for Women in the Royal Navy, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence RN, this evening attended the Wren's Carol Concert, St Mary-le-Strand, Strand, London, WC2.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 14: The Prince of Wales this evening gave a Dinner for the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (the Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP) at St James's Palace.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 14: The Duke of Gloucester, Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Odiham, received Group Captain Christopher Chambers on relinquishing the appointment of Officer Commanding Royal Air Force Odiham and Group Captain Peter Crawford on assuming the appointment.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 14: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited Applied Holographics, Phoenix Road, Washington, Tyne and Wear, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Tyne and Wear (Colonel Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison).

His Royal Highness today visited Crabtree of Gateshead Limited, Team Valley Trading Estate, Gateshead, and the Universal Building Society, Universal House, Newcastle Central Technology Park, Newcastle.

The Duke of Kent later visited the Newcastle Business Advice Centre, Anderson House, Market Street, Newcastle, and St Mary's Training and Enterprise Centre, Oystershell Lane, Newcastle, Tyne and Wear.

Captain Alexander Tetley was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
December 14: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this afternoon visited St Christopher's Hospice, 51-59 Lawrie Park Road, Sydenham, London SE26.

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, this evening attended a performance of the Messiah, arranged by CRISIS in aid of homeless people, at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

The Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

JAMES WISEMAN



A delighted William Caygill shows off one of the thousands of coins from the "river of silver" he unearthed

5,000 silver coins found in Civil War hoard

A METAL detecting enthusiast could be tens of thousands of pounds better off after unearthing what Yorkshire Museum experts say is the largest hoard of English Civil War coins ever found.

William Caygill, a 44-year-old painter and decorator from Darlington, Co Durham, discovered more than five thousand silver coins while on a detecting trip in North Yorkshire last summer.

The coins, which cover a hundred year period, are thought to have been buried in about 1646 on the site of a royal hunting lodge near Middleham Castle, an area where many significant finds have been made.

Experts believe that the coins, including 200 rare silver Ducatoons struck in the Spanish Netherlands, could have been part of a Royalist fighting fund raised by Charles I's Queen Henrietta Maria after she pawned some of the Crown Jewels on the Continent in 1643.

An inquest jury in Leyburn, North Yorkshire, decided yesterday that the coins had been intentionally hidden and the Jeremy Cave, Deputy Coroner for North Yorkshire, declared them treasure trove.

They will be valued by the Government's Treasure Trove Advisory Committee and then offered for sale to the British Museum in London and the Yorkshire Museum in York, where they have been stored and researched.

If the coins are sold Mr Caygill and the owner of the pasture farmland where he made his find, will share a reward based on the present day value of the coins. The inquest heard how Mr Caygill stumbled across the coins with his metal detector. He unearthed two large earthenware pots side by side 18 inches below the ground and two days later found another pot 20 yards away.

Craig Barclay, Keeper of Numismatics at Yorkshire Museum, told the inquest that the concealment of the coins remained a mystery. They had a face value of £310, the equivalent of about £20,000 today.

After the inquest yesterday Mr Caygill said: "At the time I thought it was a dream. I have been metal detecting for ten years and could carry on for another 50 and never find some thing like this. It's what every one wants — to find a hoard of coins. I was in such a state of shock . . . It was like a jingling river of silver."

Dinners

Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851
The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, attended a dinner last night at Armourers' Hall to mark the Commission's inaugural industrial fellowships. The following Commissioners were present:

Sir Denis Rooke (chairman of the board of management), Mr R Clutton, Professor C D Curtis, Sir Diarmuid Downs, Mr S Z de Ferranti, Sir Peter Gadsden, Miss Hermione Hobhouse, Mr D H Maitland, Mr S N Mustow, Sir Randolph Quirk, Mr O Roith, Sir Frederick Warner, Sir Richard Way, Dame Margaret Weston, Sir William Whitfield, Mr I R Yates and Mr M C Neale (secretary to the commissioners).

Dr G M Asher, Sir William Barlow, Mr G M Brewin, Dr P J Bryanston-Cross, Mr C G C Cocks, Dr R F Coleman, Mr P C Drake, Brigadier G L D Duckworth, Mr P H Hamilton, Mr G F Heath, Mr S Hibberdine, Professor T J Hill, Sir Edward Parkes, Mr S R Putt, Dr R L Reuben, Sir Ralph Robins, Professor J W Steeds, Professor W D P Stewart, Mr T Truman, Mr N Vaughan and Mr D N Wells were also present.

The 1851 Award Holders present were the six inaugural industrial fellows: Miss K C Clapp, Mr A G W Davis, Mr T R John, Mr S P Leyland, Mr S C J Parker and Mr R F Swain, and the inaugural 1851 bursar at the Textile Conservation Centre, Hampton Court Palace, Miss V C Allan.

Speaker
The Speaker held a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday evening in honour of Dr Milan Uhde, Chairman of the Czech National Council. The Ambassador of the Czech Republic was also present. The other guests included:
Mr John Cummings, MP, Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse, MP, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, MP, Mr Michael Stephen, MP, Mr Roy Thomason, MP, Mr Gary Waller, MP, Mrs Marcella Davey, Mrs Elizabeth Gibb-Low, Mrs Hana Hubackova, Miss Roseanne O'Reilly, Mr John Sweetman, Mr Nigel Thorpe and Mr Nicolas Bevan.

Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
Sir Gerard Vaughan, MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, was host at a dinner held last night at the House of Commons after Professor Michael Peckham, Director of Research and Development, Department of Health, and Sir Walter Bodmer, Director of Research, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, had addressed a meeting of the committee.

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators
Mrs Barbara Mills, QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, was present at the annual dinner of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators held last night at Guildhall.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr J. Berger and Dr N.J. Ramsell
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Dr Felix Berger and Mrs Lorna Berger, of Chiswick, London, and Nicky, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Terence Ramsell, of Burton, Wirral.

Captain N.R.M. Borton and Miss A.K. Laurie
The engagement is announced between Captain Nicholas Borton, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Borton, of London, and Amanda Katharin, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alasdair Laurie, of Rait, Perthshire.

Mr P.de Kay Dusinberre and Miss L. Dunlop
The engagement is announced between Peter (Deke) Dusinberre, formerly of Fair Haven, New Jersey, USA, son of the late Mr and Mrs Peter Dusinberre, and Louisa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Dunlop, of Bucklebury, Berkshire. Both now of Paris.

Mr R.A. Holloway and Ms A. Soubry
The forthcoming marriage is announced and will take place in 1994 between Richard Holloway and Anna Soubry.

Mr M.A.B. Langlands Pearse and Miss A.J. Huntley
The engagement is announced between Marcus, son of Commander and Mrs Ian Langlands Pearse, of Oakenden Manor, Cowfold, West Sussex, and Amanda Juliet, daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Huntley, of Ashurst, Fernhurst, Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr J.K. Miller and Miss J.A. Gormanley
The engagement is announced between John K. Miller, WS, of Edinburgh, and Jill Alexandria Gormanley, of Alness.

Mr J.R. Perceval Maxwell and Miss T.I. Hastie
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Commander and Mrs R. Perceval Maxwell, of Holt, Wiltshire, and Tricia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Hastie, of Victoria, Australia.

Mr S. van de Wall and Miss M. Melse
The engagement is announced between Steven van de Wall and Mandy Melse, both of The Netherlands.

Lieutenant J.J. Westerman, RM and Miss G. King
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs R.T. Westerman, and Gillian, daughter of Mr and Mrs E.H.W. King.

Mr N.J.S. Wordie and Miss A.L. Treneer-Michell
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, youngest son of Sir John and Lady Wordie, of Dodington House, Breamore, Hampshire, and Alice, elder daughter of the late Colonel Peter Treneer-Michell and of Mrs Treneer-Michell, of Rose Cottage, Thruxton, Hampshire.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nero, 5th Roman emperor AD54-68, Antium (Anzio), AD 37; George Romney, portrait painter, Dalton-in-Furness, Lancashire, 1734; Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, builder of the tower bearing his name, Dijon, 1832; Josef Hoffmann, architect, Pirnitz, Czechoslovakia, 1870.

DEATHS: Jan Vermeer, painter, Delft, 1675; Isaac Walton, the "Father of Angling", Winchester, 1683; George Hickes, theologian, 1715; Benjamin Stillingfleet, naturalist, London, 1771; Charles Stanhope, 3rd Earl Stanhope, politician and man of science, Chevening, 1816; Georg Friedrich Grotefend, scholar, Frankfurt, 1853; Sir George Cayley, pioneer of aerodynamics, Scarborough, 1857; Sitting Bull, chief of the Sioux, on Grand River, South Dakota, 1890; Gregory Rasputin, monk, favourite at the Russian court, murdered, St Petersburg, 1916; Wolfgang Pauli, physicist, Nobel laureate 1945, Zurich, 1958; Charles Laughton, actor, Hollywood, 1962; Walt Disney, animated cartoonist and film producer, Los Angeles, 1966.

Reception

Greek Ambassador
Prince Michael of Kent, Chief Patron of the Anglo-Hellenic League, and the Greek Ambassador and Mrs Goumaris were the hosts at a reception held yesterday at 51 Upper Brook Street to mark the 80th anniversary of the league.

Birthdays today

Mr David Abell, chairman and chief executive, Suter, 51; Mrs Valerie Aggett, principal, Holborn Law Tutors, 43; Mr Michael Bogdanov, theatre director, 55; Mr Clive Brittain, racehorse trainer, 60; the Earl of Buckinghamshire, 49; Dr S.A. Checkley, psychiatrist, 48; Lord Croham, 76; Sir Graham Dorey, Bailiff of Guernsey, 61; Air Marshal Sir John Fitzpatrick, 64; Miss Ida Haendel, violinist, 69; Mr Gunnar Hägglöf, Swedish diplomat, 89; Sir Henry Hardman, civil servant, 88; Mr Don Johnson, actor, 44; Mr Joe Jordan, footballer, 42; General Sir Frank Kitson, 67; Deaconess Dr Una Kroll, writer and broadcaster, 68; Mr David McMurray, headmaster, Oundle School, 56; Mr Oscar Niemeyer, architect, 86; Miss Edna O'Brien, writer, 57; Commandant Anne Spencer, former director, WRNS, 55; Professor Sir John Meurig Thomas, master, Peterhouse, Cambridge, 61; Professor M.H.F. Wilkins, biophysicist, 77.

Anne Lady Jaffray's address is Flat A9, Sloane Avenue Mansions, Sloane Avenue, London, SW3 3JF.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will attend a reception at the Royal Geographical Society at 6.30 to mark the 90th anniversary of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron and Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend receptions for young people who have reached the gold standard at St James's Palace at 11.30 and 4.00; as Patron of the British Trust for Ornithology, will attend a luncheon at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre at 12.30 to launch *The New Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland*.

The Prince of Wales, as President of The Prince's Trust, will attend a conference on study support centres at the Sarah Bonnell School, Deanery Road, Stratford, E15, at 10.30; and, as Patron of the Macmillan Nurse Appeal, will attend a carol concert in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, at 6.35.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend the launch of the Sutton Carers Centre, the Civil Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, at 10.00; as Patron of the Association of Combined Youth Clubs, will attend a charity Christmas luncheon at Grosvenor House at 12.30; and, as Patron of the British Nutrition Foundation, will attend a seminar on nutrition in developing countries at the Royal Society of Medicine, Wimpole Street, at 2.35.

Princess Alexandra, as president, will attend the Friends of the V and A Christmas party at the Museum at 6.45.

Luncheon

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Mrs Hurd held a luncheon yesterday at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of Mr Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and Mrs Arafat.

CCJ Sternberg Award

Cardinal Basil Hume presented the 15th Annual Council of Christians and Jews Sternberg Award to Rabbi Dr Norman Solomon, at Westminster Cathedral Hall on Monday night.

Institute of Physics

The Institute of Physics has announced the following recipients of its 1994 Awards:
Glazebrook Medal and Prize, Dr Paul Randall Williams, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory; **Guthrie Medal and Prize**, Professor Philip George Burke, Queen's University, Belfast; **Charles Vernon Boys Medal and Prize**, Professor Wilson Sibbett, University of St Andrews; **Paul Dirac Medal and Prize**, Professor Volker Heine, University of Cambridge; **Max Born Medal and Prize**, Professor Dr Wolfgang Demtröder, Max Planck Institute, Germany; **Harrie Massey Medal and Prize**, Professor Rodney James Baxter, University of Cambridge; **Bragg Medal and Prize**, Dr Cyril Isenberg, University of Kent; **Duddell Medal and Prize**, Dr Christopher John Stokes Damerell, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory; **Maxwell Medal and Prize**, Dr Stephen Mark Barnett, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow; **Paterson Medal and Prize**, Mr Robert William Musk, BT & D Technologies, Ipswich; **Rutherford Medal and Prize**, Professor James Philip Elliott, University of Sussex.

Memorial services

Admiral Sir Andrew Mackenzie Lewis
A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Admiral Sir Andrew Mackenzie Lewis, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Essex 1978-92, Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command, 1972-74, will be held in Chelmsford Cathedral on Friday, January 14, at 3.00pm. Applications for tickets to the Cathedral Administrator, 53 New Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1AT. There will be some unreserved seats.

Sir William Morton
A Memorial Service for the late Sir William (Bill) Morton, CBE, DL, will be held on Friday, December 17, 1993, at noon at All Saints' Church, Northampton.

School news

Eton College
Eton College closes today.
In the final of the House Association Mr M.A. Town's defeated Mr N.R. Colquhoun's by one goal to nil.
School opens for the Lent Half on Wednesday, January 12.

Moulsford Preparatory School
The Governors of Moulsford Preparatory School have appointed Mr Michael J. Higham, currently Deputy Headmaster of Felsted Preparatory School, as Headmaster with effect from September 1, 1994, in succession to Mr D.R. Jarman.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000
FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the herald, the bringer of good news, announcing deliverance, proclaiming to Zion, "Your God has become King."
Isaiah 52:7

BIRTHS

BARTRUM - On December 8th, to Emma Susan (née Booker) and Geoffrey, a son, Joshua Charles Laidlaw.

BECKER - On 8th December at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Penelope (née Smallbone) and Timothy, a son.

BEVAN - On December 11th, to Annabel and Will, a daughter, Victoria Mary, a sister for George and Lucy.

COPPS - On December 5th, to Anna Foster and Alan, a daughter, Miranda Bryony Foster.

DANSKIN - On November 29th, to Kathy and David, a son William John Chadwick, a brother for Julia.

ELPHICK - On 8th December at Farnborough Hospital, Kent, to Tracy and Charles, a son, Maximilian Edward Blake.

HARTLEY - On 6th December, to Georgina (née Burton) and James, a son, Charles Benjamin, a brother for Samuel.

HESTER - On Friday 10th December, to Nicola and David, a first son, Robert.

HIGGINSON - On December 11th, to Stephanie (née Corner) and Timothy, three sons, Hugo Alexander Bennett, Mylo George Bennett and Thomas Leo Bennett.

HIGGINS - On December 9th, to Susan and Martin, a daughter, Isabelle Rose, a sister for William and Alicia. Many thanks to all at John and Lizzies.

KOETS - Born Lotte at The Portland Hospital 9th December 1993, time 20.20.

LEWIS - On December 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah and David and a brother for Joe.

MASON - On 11th December in London, to Susie (née Elmitt) and Andrew, a son, Maximilian Christopher.

WESTCOTT - On December 12th, to David and Sara (née Paterson-Brown), a son, Peter Guy, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London.

YALLOP - On 12th December, to Rosemary (née Moore) and Mark, a daughter, Olivia Mary Rose.

DEATHS

ALLISON - Peacefully and without pain in Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, Glennis Allison, dearly loved wife of Brian, mother of Jane and David, grandmother of William and sister of Christine. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Chiddingfold, Surrey, at 2.30pm on Friday December 17th. Flowers and all enquiries to Robert Ayling Funeral Services, tel: (0483) 67333.

ANDERSON - Eileen Mabel Mary aged 87 years, died peacefully on 11th December. Deeply loved and respected by her many friends and her family. Will be sadly missed. Cremation on Saturday 18th December at 11 am at Golders Green Crematorium. No flowers by request but donations to Craig for The Cats Protection League.

AYRE - On December 14th 1993, peacefully at Wantage Hospital after a long illness, Joan. Much loved wife of Hartley, mother of David and grandmother of Rachel and Georgie. Service at 2.15pm on Monday December 20th at Headington Crematorium, Oxford. Family flowers only.

BOOTH - Doris Alice (née Brand), second wife of the late George Frederick Booth of Herne Bay, died peacefully in her sleep on December 12th 1993. Funeral at Barham Crematorium, Canterbury, on Tuesday 21st December at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to The British Red Cross London Headquarters.

BOOTH - On 13th December, very suddenly, in hospital, Margaret, much loved wife of John Wells Booth. Funeral Hartest Parish Church at 12 noon on Thursday 23rd December.

BRAY - Joan (née Horsfall), on December 11th passed away at her home near Falmouth after a short illness, dearest mother of four and adored grandmother. Cremation Service at Treliswny Chapel Penmount Crematorium, Truro, on Friday December 17th at 12 noon.

BUTCHER - Sheila Mary 'fondly known as Dolly', of Salisbury. Suddenly on 10th December 1993. She will be deeply missed by her family and many friends. Funeral Service at Winterslow Methodist Church on Monday 20th December at 11 am. Flowers or donations to The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wilts.

CARELESS - On December 13th, peacefully at home, Colonel William Paget Careless (Bunny) D.S.O. J.P. D.L. King's Shropshire Light Infantry. Beloved husband of Beatrice and father of Bronwen. Funeral Service at St Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, on Monday December 20th at 11.45 am to be followed by private cremation. No flowers, donations if desired for St John Ambulance, The Army Benevolent Fund and The Injured Jockeys Fund to be sent to W.R.R. Pugh and Son, 133 Longden Coleham, Shrewsbury, SY3 7DN, tel: (0743) 344646.

CATFORD - On December 12th, Kate Johanna Martha, peacefully at her home at Carshalton, Surrey. Widow of John Arundel Catford and dearly loved mother of Jane Rose. Funeral Service and interment at Ladywell Cemetery, Ladywell Road, Catford, London SE6, on Monday 20th December at 2pm. Flowers to W.A. Truelove & Son Ltd., 118 Carshalton Road, Sutton, Surrey.

COLLIS - On 12th December, peacefully at home, aged 76, Daphne Eve (née Fawke). Much loved mother of Duncan, Nigel and Wendy Moraine-Griffiths. Funeral at St Brynach's Church, Nevern, Pembrokeshire, on 17th December at 11 am.

COMPTON - (St. John) Alison passed away suddenly on 30th November 1993 aged 30 years. Adored wife of Robert and beloved daughter of Eugene and Sylvia. So sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, The Level, Brighton, on Friday 17th December at 1pm followed by interment at Hove Cemetery. Floral tributes may be sent to Arthur Denyer Funeral Directors, 18/19 Lewes Road, Brighton, tel: (0273) 681718.

CORNELIUS - On December 10th, peacefully, after her valiant battle against lung cancer, Maureen Catherine, dearly beloved by her family and friends. Family cremation, Wednesday 15th December. All friends and family invited to celebrate her life at the Park Inn, Nottinghill Gate, at 12.30pm Monday 20th December. Single red rose and any donations to The Royal Marsden Appeal.

DAYEH - On December 10th 1993, tragically as the result of a road accident, Nadim Bishara, aged 43 years. Dearly loved husband of Melanie, loving father of Samir, Lara and Jack and dear brother of Saleem. Funeral Service Tuesday December 21st at 3 pm in St Mary's Church, Hale, nr. Fordingbridge, Hants., followed by private burial in Hale Cemetery. Family flowers only please but if desired donations in his memory for Save the Children Fund may be sent to Deric Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, 755 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, BH7 6AN.

EARLE - Peter Beaumont aged 76 on 10th December at home. Much loved husband, father and grandfather. A private cremation has taken place and a service of thanksgiving will be held at St George's Church, Hanover Square, on Tuesday 1st February at 12 noon.

GILL - On December 11th 1993, after a short illness, William Tait Gill, aged 87 years, of Duffield, Derbyshire; dearly loved husband of Joan, father of Lesley and Andrew, grandfather of Joanna and Charles and beloved brother of Elena Gill of St Andrews, Fife. Funeral Monday December 20th, service 12 noon at Duffield Parish Church, Derbyshire. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Nightingale Macmillan Continuing Care Unit, 117a London Road, Derby.

GORDON-EWEN - On December 13th 1993, peacefully in Oxford, Katherine ("K"), aged 90. Funeral Service at Oxford Crematorium, Headington, on Monday 20th December at 11.30. No flowers but donations if desired to St Martin-in-the-Fields Christmas Appeal c/o 5 St Martin's Place, WC14 NJJ.

GRAHAM-VIVIAN - On December 13th peacefully at home, Manaccan, Cornwall, Harry aged 70. Beloved husband of Rosie, loved father of Richard and Lavinia. Funeral Service at Manaccan Parish Church on Saturday December 18th at 11am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Secretary, West Cornwall Branch of Alzheimers Community Centre, South Terrace, Camborne, TR14 8SS.

HANSLIP - On December 12th 1993, Ernest Robert (RAF retired) at his home in Shellingford after a courageous fight against cancer. Funeral Service, Oxford Crematorium 1.15pm on Wednesday 15th December. No flowers by request. Donations if wished to R.N.L.I.

JARRED - On December 12th 1993, peacefully in hospital, Mary, aged 94, Contralto. Widow of Sam Robertshaw. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium at 3 pm Wednesday December 22nd. Flowers or donations to Musicians Benevolent Fund, 16 Ogle Street, London W1P 7LG. Enquiries to H. Copeland & Son, 9 Bromley Road, Beckenham, BR3 2NY, tel: (081) 650-2296.

JESSOP - Peter Hugh Hamilton, aged 75 years, of 2 The Hall, Guilden Sutton, Chester, formerly of 12 Garth Drive, Chester, suddenly on holiday in Tenerife on Sunday 12th December. All enquiries to Geo. Pettit & Son, Funeral Directors, Delamere Street, Chester (tel: 0244-390678).

JESSOP - Peter Hugh Hamilton, aged 75 years, of Guilden Sutton, Chester, formerly of Garth Drive, Chester, suddenly on holiday in Tenerife on Sunday 12th December. All enquiries to Geo. Pettit & Son, Funeral Directors, Delamere Street, Chester (tel: 0244-390678).

LEATHES - On December 11th, peacefully at Speldhurst, Naomi Vanora, aged 88, beloved wife of Teddy, mother of Richard, mother-in-law of Sue and grandmother of Nicholas and Christopher. Funeral at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on December 20th at 4 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Arthritis and Rheumatism Council c/o Hickmott and Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1SD.

LEONARD - On 13th December, peacefully in hospital in Lanzarote, John Thirlestane Leonard, CBE, aged 71. Beloved husband of Gabrielle, devoted father of Richard, Philippa, Charles, Martin and Annique, and loving grandfather of eight. Requiem Mass and burial at St Saviour's R.C. Church, Totland, I.O.Wight at noon on Monday 10th January 1994. Transport to and from the church will meet the 10.45 am Lymington Ferry at Yarmouth. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to the Wessex Medical Trust for research into cardiology, will be gratefully received. Enquiries to Twymans, Funeral Directors, Avenue Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight, PO40 9UU.

LITTLE - Dr. Patrick William Anthony died peacefully on December 14th aged 40 years after a long illness. Cremation on Friday December 17th, 10.30 am, Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, London NW11. Donations to Mildmay Mission Hospital, Hackney Road, London E2 7NA.

LYTTELTON - On 12th December, peacefully, in Highgate, Judith Clive, aged 88. Cremation private. Springtime Memorial Service.

MARTIN - On 13th December 1993 peacefully at his home in Leicestershire Col. Sir Andrew St George Martin K.C.V.O. OBE, JP, Hon. LLD Leicester, Hon. D. Tech Loughborough in his 80th year. The dearly beloved husband of Peggy, dear father of Robert and loved grandfather of Charlotte, Edward and Sophie. Funeral private. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at a date to be announced. No flowers please, donations if desired for the Army Benevolent Fund or S.S.F.A. c/o Ginns & Gutteridge Funeral Directors, St Nicholas House, St Vaughan Way, Leicester Tel 0533 516117.

McWATTERS - On Sunday 12th December, suddenly and peacefully, Arthur Michael (Mickey), aged 69. Deeply loved husband of Wendie, father of Sarah, Diana and stepfather of Marcus. Service of Thanksgiving to be held on Tuesday 21st December at Christchurch, Clifton, Bristol at 12 noon. Friends welcome. No flowers but donations if desired for The Chest, Heart and Stroke Association, c/o E. Hooper & Son, 13 St James Parade, Bath BA1 1UL.

MORTON - On 7th December 1993, Graham Denbigh, sadly missed by his brother, family and friends. Family funeral was held at The City of London Crematorium on 14th December. Memorial Service at Mildmay Mission Hospital, 38-54 Austin Street, London E2, on 8th January at 3 pm. Family flowers only please but donations may be sent to the Chaplain at Mildmay.

MOSCO - Suddenly on December 7th 1993, Gerald. Mourned by his wife Maisie, children Marilyn, Maurice, Carole and Stephen, children-in-law and grandchildren.

MOSS - On 12th December, peacefully in Antibes, John Matthew Moss, aged 84, husband of the late Mary Moss, stepfather of Christopher and Georgina Adam, stepgrandfather of Sacha, Olivier and Benjamin. Remembered with love and affection by his many friends.

NEW - On 10th December 1993, Susan Angela (née Lushington) aged 61 years. Mother of Stephen, James, Caroline and Charlie. Funeral Service at St Francis of Assisi, Pottery Lane, London W11, on Thursday 16th December at 2.30 pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Research.

PARRY JAMES - On 9th December, Lettey aged 86, peacefully. Widow of Basil. Funeral Service on Tuesday 21st December at Christ Church, South Nutfield at noon followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Cheneys c/o Seaford and Newhaven Funeral Service, 22 Sutton Road, Seaford, Sussex BN25 1RU.

RADCLIFFE - Passed away peacefully on 13th December after a short illness, Hugh John Reginald Joseph M.B.E., beloved husband of Mariquita, loving father of Mark, Jane, Anthony, Timothy, Paul and Richard and dearly loved grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral, St John the Baptist Church, Andover, 1100 hrs Friday 17th December. Family flowers only, donations to C.A.F.O.D. and Marie Curie c/o Dunnings Funeral Service, 2 Church Close, Andover, Hampshire.

SALBASHIAN - Hagop Khosrof on Saturday December 11th 1993, peacefully in hospital after a short illness, aged 86. Dearly loved son of Haygouhie and Khosrof, brother of Takouhie, Smpad, Nazaret, Herminch and Krikor, husband of Rosanna, and father of Catherine, David and James. Will be much missed by his many relatives, friends and colleagues. Funeral at St Peter's Armenian Church, Cranley Gardens, London SW7, on Thursday December 16th 1993 at 10 am. All enquiries and flowers to Ernest Larner & Son, 246 Upper Richmond Road, Putney SW15 6TG, tel: (081) 788-2942. Donations may be made to the Hagop Salbashian Memorial Fund.

SCHELLENBERG - On December 12th, peacefully at home in her 94th year, Doris Ann, much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at St Cuthberts Church, Marton-in-Cleveland, on Friday December 17th at 2.30 pm.

SCHUSTER - On 13th December, at home, Major Aubrey William Schuster, MBE, MA, (Bill), after a long illness borne with great fortitude. Cremation, 12 noon Wednesday 22nd December at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip (East Chapel). Flowers to E. Spark Ltd., tel: (0923) 826372.

SOUTHERN - On December 12th, peacefully in Charing Cross Hospital, Prudence (née Darbyshire) aged 80, widow of James. Aunt of Ann Langley and great-aunt of Hugh of Rose Farm, Ashfield, Stowmarket, Suffolk. Funeral, Tuesday 21st December 12.30 pm at St Paul's Church, Hammersmith. Donations if wished to Macmillan Nurses c/o Barnes & Sons, 112 Davenport Road, Shepherds Bush, London W12 8NU.

STAIR - Alastair Arthur, CStJ, on December 13th, aged 80 years, peacefully in his sleep at his home in New York City. Only son of the late Arthur Cecil Stair and Ethel Della, née Cade, he was President of Stair & Co. of New York and London, until 1983, sometime President of the American Antique Dealers Association. He is survived by his widow Phyllis, two children John and Nancy and a stepson Bill. Funeral at Christ Church on Quaker Hill, Pawling, New York; Memorial Service in New York City at a later date.

STERN - On 9th December 1993, after a long and courageous fight against Crohns disease, Derek Vincent, PHD, aged 52 years, passed away peacefully at The Royal Free Hospital. Much adored husband of Barbara, devoted father of Walter. Wendy, Lorna and Rowena and beloved brother of Robert. Reunited with his mother Erna, father Walter and brother John. His unique charm, wit and wisdom will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday 17th December at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. All enquiries to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 212 Eversholt Street, NW1 1BD, tel: (071) 387-6075.

TALBOT - On December 13th, Isabel (Tibby) aged 85, widow of John Talbot, mother of Henry, Gillian and Edward Elwes. Funeral 11.30 Wednesday 22nd December at Colesbourne. Family flowers only, donations if desired Colesbourne Church Restoration c/o Pinswell Plantation, Colesbourne Glos

TUCKETT - On December 12th, peacefully at home, Lettice Charlotte. Much loved mother and grandmother. Private cremation. No flowers please, but donations if wished to St Thomas's Hospital, Research Endowments Fund, London.

VINCE - Dr. Stanley William Edward O.B.E., at home on December 13th after a long illness bravely borne, sadly missed by his wife Marie-Louise, his daughters and grandchildren. Private Requiem Mass at St Patrick's Catholic Church. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to P.D.S.A. or Blue Cross Animal Hospital.

WALLER - On 14th December, Nora, widow of Frank Rowland Waller TD FCA aged 93 peacefully at Parkside Nursing Home, Banstead. A much loved and admired relative and friend and a loving mother of Paddy, Daphne and Dick and of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Cremation at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Monday 20th December at 11 am. No flowers but donations if wished may be sent to the National Trust or Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Trueloves, Sutton.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

ROSS - Alan Alistair (Angus) Ross O.B.E., December 16th 1984. Remembered today and every day with great love. "A verray parfit gentil knight".

SILBERSTON - Phoebe. Loving memories of darling mother. Gertrude Shilling.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREDDY HILL Wishes to inform his friends that he will be sending cards this Christmas and begs their forbearance.

MONDI loves Lloyd M More than she will ever know, P.S. pick up a phone. "Talk to me"

RACY Racy stock broker. So that was dinner. Now let me eat you - your favourite lady client.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

DALTON, GEORGE FREDERICK DALTON late of South Norwood, London SE25 died at Carshalton, Surrey on 28 July 1993 (Estate about £68,000). FOXALL nee FARAGO, GIZELLA FOXALL nee FARAGO WIDOW late of Birmingham, West Midlands died there on 9 April 1993 (Estate about £68,000). GIBBS, THOMAS GIBBS late of Camden, London NW1 died there on 10 September 1992 (Estate about £5,600). HARPIN, RONALD ALAN HARPIN late of Portsmouth, Hampshire died there on 9 September 1993 (Estate about £100,000). KING NEE POTTER, JANE ELIZABETH KING otherwise JANE KING NEE POTTER WIDOW late of Goodmayes, Essex died there on 27 August 1992 (Estate about £46,000). KRATOCHVIL, JOSEF KRATOCHVIL late of Brockley, London SE4 died there on 21 September 1992 (Estate about £6,700). PENNIALL, JOSEPH JOHN PENNIALL late of Blackheath, London SE3 died there on 16 March 1993 (Estate about £180,000). PETRIE, JAMES NOEL PETRIE late of Westminster, London SW1 died there on May 1 1990 (Estate about £5,000). PRICE otherwise PRYCE, ETHEL ELIZABETH PRICE otherwise ETHEL WILCOX PRYCE SPINSTER late of Kingston, Herefordshire died there on 30 October 1991 (Estate about £2,000). RUDDOCK otherwise LAWRENCE SILINS HORTENSE RUDDOCK otherwise SILINSE HORTENSE LAWRENCE otherwise SILINE LAWRENCE otherwise SELINE HORTENSE LAWRENCE otherwise SELINA HORTENSE LAWRENCE otherwise SELINA LAWRENCE SPINSTER late of Peckham, London SE15 died at Lewisham, London SE13 on 3 March 1993 (Estate about £42,000). WELCH formerly WALLIS, JOHN WELCH formerly JOHN CHRISTOPHER WALLIS late of Slough, Berkshire died there on or about 17 April 1990 (Estate about £20,000).

DOBSON, Robert Brian, 13 North Common Road, London W5, died 29th October 1988; particulars to Harbottle & Lewis, Solicitors, Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square, London W1R OBE before 11 February 1994.

LACK, HARRY ERNEST of Upper Lodge, Henley Common, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 3HE died on 11th January 1993. Particulars to Finers (Ref.B15), Solicitors of 179 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5ED before 28th February 1994.

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OBITUARIES

JOAN CROSS

Joan Cross, CBE, English soprano, opera administrator and teacher, died in Aldeburgh, Suffolk, on December 12 aged 93. She was born in London on September 7, 1900.



WITHOUT Joan Cross, Sadler's Wells Theatre might well not have staged the first performance of Benjamin Britten's *Peter Grimes* on June 7, 1945, possibly the most important première in the history of postwar British opera. She created the role of Ellen Orford, the first of five Britten wrote with her in mind, ending with Mrs Grose in *The Turn of the Screw*. But it was Cross's persistence and determination which won *Grimes* for the Wells.

Before the war Joan Cross had been one of the leading sopranos of the Vic-Wells opera company. From 1943 to 1945 she had run it virtually single-handed, bringing popular opera to the regions, which were starved of music of any kind. During that time she was primarily an administrator, going on stage herself in cases of emergency when the scheduled soprano was ill or delayed by bombing.

One of her young tenors was Peter Pears, an ungainly figure on stage, she recalled, but useful in the lighter roles such a Tamino, Vasek in *The Bartered Bride* and the Duke in *Rigoletto*. Through him she met Britten, who had just completed the score of *Grimes*. He played it on the piano to her in a dingy Liverpool attic and she straightway determined that this should be the opera with which her company re-opened Sadler's Wells.

She had not, however, judged how much opposition this would generate within. Many of the regular singers saw there was no room for them in this "new music". They complained about its cacophony and they made capital out of the fact that both Britten and his Grimes (Peter Pears) had been conscientious objectors during the war. Joan Cross, least pushy of singers, even had to face the accusation that she was using the opera as a vehicle for herself. Her answer was to resign as company director. Britten and his librettist, Eric Crozier, had insisted that she was the *only* Ellen. The première went on against the fiercest opposition and ended in triumph but Britten and Pears knew that Sadler's Wells was no longer the house for them. Joan Cross knew it, too, and threw in her lot with what was to become the English Opera Group.

Britten rewarded her with a series of roles, first at Glyndebourne before his rift with John Christie, then as Gloriana at Covent Garden and finally as the housekeeper, Mrs Grose, in *The Turn of the Screw*. Joan Cross in turn became a Suffolk lady, closely observing all that happened at Aldeburgh. In her mid-eighties she was still a sprightly figure, living in a cottage packed with operatic memorabilia and leading visitors up the lane to lunch at the local pub, where she held forth about musical rights and wrongs. With Joan Cross there were no half measures: she believed in absolute values and absolute loyalties, especially to Britten. Her nose, beaky and inquisitive, twitched at the mention of some whom she believed to be charlatans.

Joan Cross was educated at St Paul's Girls School, London, where Gustav Holst was among her music teachers. In her early twenties she joined the chorus of the Vic-Wells company and was soon singing the roles expected of a young lyric soprano — Pamina, Cherubino. When the Vic-Wells established a new home in Rosebery Avenue, Islington, Cross soon graduated to weighter parts such as Butterfly, Violetta and Elisabeth in *Tannhäuser*. She remained a member of the company from 1931 until 1946.

In those prewar years Covent Garden was not especially keen on home-grown singers, especially those who were popular favourites with the Vic-Wells audiences. But Joan Cross made a handful of appearances at the Royal Opera House, starting in 1931 with Mimi and a single Elsa (*Lohengrin*). In 1934 she stepped in to replace Lotte Lehmann as Desdemona, opposite Melchior's Otello.

The real career remained in Rosebery Avenue, where Cross's lyric soprano, never large but excellently projected and articulated, gathered enough weight for Wagner and the Marschallin in *Der Rosenkavalier*. She became an accomplished actress and her quick wit and decisiveness made her a sharp administrator during the war years. When the company was exiled out of London Joan Cross was largely responsible for keeping it together and feeding it with such singers as were available. She was ready to back those she believed had talent, as she did Peter Pears against the advice of several of her colleagues.

Later they were to partner one another memorably in a number of Britten's operas. *Peter Grimes* led to *The Rape of Lucretia*, with Pears and Cross as Male and Female Chorus and Nancy Evans in the title role. Extracts with them singing in both operas have just been issued on CD by EMI. Cross's ability to play high comedy was demonstrated by her Lady Billows in *Albert Herring*. Then there was *Gloriana* with Cross in the title role, a Covent Garden first night as inglorious as *Peter Grimes* had been triumphant. The argument over whether this opera was a failure by Britten or turned into one by a stuffed shirt and uncomprehending audience at the première continues. But about the majesty and insight of Cross's own performance there has been little debate.

As Joan Cross entered her fifties she began to think about retiring from the stage. She had been an administrator and on a number of occasions had tried her hand at directing opera. There had been a *Rosenkavalier* at Covent Garden, a *Traviata* among other operas with her old company, Sadler's Wells. And she had worked abroad. But instead she decided to turn her energies to teaching and in particular to the Opera School, which she had founded with her friend and colleague, Anne Wood, in 1948. It was renamed the National School of Opera and later formed the basis for today's London Opera Centre.

As a teacher she was as often as forthright in her views as she was in the opinions she expressed in private. She did not look for compromises or fudged criticisms. But those who came before her knew that she had experienced virtually every aspect of British operatic life. In the interwar years she had conquered one operatic audience and in the postwar period a totally different one, primarily through the operas of Benjamin Britten. With Peter Pears she had forged one of the great vocal and dramatic partnerships.

She was appointed CBE in 1951. She never married.

HUGUES DE L'ESTOILE

Hugues de l'Estoile, for many years France's chief weapons salesman, first for the government, then for the Dassault company, died in Paris on November 23 aged 62. He was born in Poitiers on May 7, 1931.

DASSAULT made the fighter planes: Thomson, Matra and Aérospatiale the missiles; while the French President and his ministers vigorously promoted the sales of the military hardware on official visits abroad. This was the nature of the French team effort in the wake of the presidency of General de Gaulle which hoisted France to the position of third-ranking arms exporter in the world after the United States and the Soviet Union. The man in the background who set up and clinched many of the deals was Hugues de l'Estoile, whose title of Ingénieur Général de l'Armement was equivalent to that of an army general.

He sold Mirage jets, missiles, AMX tanks, artillery, warships and other pieces of weaponry to a value of many billions of pounds. He spent a great deal of his life travelling with his shopping list and concluded several undercover deals with the agreement of his political masters.

De l'Estoile was the son of a general and graduated from the Ecole Polytechnique and from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de l'Aéronautique. He soon had important posts at the Defence Ministry.

He was 33 when Pierre Messmer, General de Gaulle's Defence Minister, appointed him head of a centre to advise the government on budgetary and technical choices in the defence realm. He imposed a stronger notion of programming on the French general staff and ruffled feathers in the process. Later, he became Messmer's special adviser and held the same post when Michel Debré was Defence Minister in 1969-70.

His next promotion in 1970 saw him become head of international affairs at the Délégation Générale de l'Armement at the Defence Ministry — the key post in the world of French arms exports. Instead of merely approving export dossiers, he took to the road and became a zealous seller of hardware for France and, above all, for the Dassault company. He was credited with gaining some 23 new clients for French arms, notably among countries in Latin America, the Middle East and Asia.

In the early 1970s, acting upon the instructions of the then President, Georges Pompidou, he arranged for Mirage V jets to be sold and delivered to Israel in parts as a way around an embargo. He sold Mirage IIIs to Saudi Arabia that were destined for Egypt.

He left selling briefly in 1974 to take the post of director for industry under the then Industry Minister Michel d'Ornano.

De l'Estoile was among the first to bring Renault closer to Volvo, a move that finally led to the recent merger agreement between the two companies which was dramatically frozen on December 1 when Volvo's boardroom voted against it on the ground that it amounted to a French takeover of Volvo. Another of his roles was to subsidise French firms in the nuclear, electronics and computer fields. Here, he obtained very mixed results and in 1977 he joined aviation tycoon Marcel Dassault as his international director.

In 14 years this dynamic weapons salesman sold £13 billion worth of French aircraft around the world, as well as those developed in co-operation with other countries. These included fighter and ground attack versions of the Mirage; the Atlantique prop-jet maritime reconnaissance aircraft; the Anglo-French Jaguar strike fighter; and the Franco-German Alpha Jet trainer, light attack and close support aircraft.

He left in 1991 after a disagreement with Marcel Dassault's son and heir Serge allegedly over policy towards Saudi Arabia. There had been tension, too, over sharply falling Dassault sales outside France.

Possession of an extraordinary contacts book which contained the names and direct-line numbers of presidents defence ministers, air force generals and key officials enabled him to open his own consultancy firm, Hugues de l'Estoile Contact International.

He is survived by his wife.

PROFESSOR THADDEUS MANN

Thaddeus Mann, CBE, FRS, Professor of the Physiology of Reproduction, University of Cambridge, 1967-76, died on November 27 aged 84. He was born on December 4, 1908.



ONE of the most distinguished biochemists of his generation, Thaddeus Mann was the first to show that fructose, not glucose, was the characteristic sugar of semen, and that its production was controlled by sex hormones.

In later years, Mann extended his investigations to non-mammalian marine animals, both vertebrates and invertebrates, and to cephalopod molluscs including several species of squid and octopus. His investigations included the composition of semen in relation to its transmission by the animal's spermatophore in a non-liquid state into the reproductive tract of the female.

No one who heard Mann expound upon the mechanics of copulation as practised by the giant octopus can have failed to be as excited and awed by it as he was himself. In listening to him even a non-scientist came to understand not just the theoretical importance of his work but also its practical significance for the study of human fertility, the decline of which is currently giving scientists much cause for concern.

Born in Lvov (then Lemberg, a city of the Austro-Hungarian Empire), Thaddeus Robert Rudolph Mann received his MD from its university in 1935. He had intended to go into general practice as a doctor, but from 1928 he began to specialise in biochemistry, first of all as a student and then as a researcher in the laboratory of Joseph K. Parnas. In 1934 he married his fellow-researcher, Cecilia Lutwak. They were already working and publishing together, and they continued to do so for the next 50 years.

In 1935 Mann moved to the Molteno Institute in Cambridge, as a Rockefeller Foundation fellow, and began a long association with David Keilin, Director of the Institute and Quick Professor of Biology. He became a Beit Memorial fellow in 1937 and was appointed a principal scientific officer with the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) from 1944 to 1952. He was awarded his Cambridge PhD in 1937, for work which demonstrated that the content of amino groups in muscles and in the blood does not change during physical exercise and muscle contraction and that the processes observed in muscles are the result of enzymatic reaction comparable with those observed during alcoholic fermentation in yeast. He obtained his ScD in 1950 and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1951.

In 1953 Mann was made Reader in the Physiology of Reproduction at Cambridge, and in 1967 the Mary Marshall and Arthur Walton Professor of Reproductive Physiology. He succeeded Sir John Hammond as director of the ARC Unit of Animal Reproduction (renaming it the Unit of Reproductive Physiology and Biochemistry) in 1954 and held both the chair and directorship until his retirement in 1976.

Mann was a familiar figure on the international scene where he could operate effectively and easily in German and French, as well as in English and Polish. In his earlier years he had shown an active interest in art and was an accomplished violinist. In later life most of his time was taken up by research, administrative work, travel and writing, but he continued to read widely in four languages. Mann was appointed CBE in 1962. Among his many publications, *The Biochemistry of Semen* (1954) remains a classic.

Known to friends as Taddy or Tadzio, Mann had about him an old-world, Central European courtesy and formality.

He saw no conflict between science and religion. Brought up as a Roman Catholic, he lived and died in the faith, but his practice in later years was thoroughly ecumenical. He nursed his wife devotedly at home for many years in her final illness and, after her death in 1987, he involved himself again fully in the social life of Trinity Hall, the college which he had first joined as a research student in 1935. There were no children.

LETTICE SANDFORD

Lettice Sandford, engraver, died on December 3 aged 90. She was born on December 14, 1902.



Aphrodite's Cockerel by Lettice Sandford, 1939

LETTICE SANDFORD was a part of that renaissance in wood and copper engraving which featured so large in the English art scene of the 1920s and 1930s. Together with her husband, the printer Christopher Sandford, she ran the Golden Cockerel Press for a quarter-of-a-century, producing about four books a year, beautifully bound and illustrated if never commercial winners, and nurturing in the process such talents as Eric Ravilious and Eric Gill.

From the Press's headquarters at the family's 17th-century manor house in deepest Herefordshire, Lettice Sandford staged a revival in the ancient craft of corn dollies. It was all light years from the harrowing world portrayed by their son, the writer Jeremy Sandford (formerly married to Nell Dunn), in plays such as *Cathy Come Home*.

If the gentle pace of Lettice Sandford's life came to look like something of an anachronism in later years, she was considered to be at the cutting edge of art trends in her youth. She was born Lettice Mackintosh (and nicknamed Watercress Waterproof) Rate, one of five daughters whose mother died young. She was educated at the Manor House in north London, and afterwards at the Byam Shaw and Vicat Cole School of Art on Campden Hill.

Having decided to specialise in book illustration, she moved to Chelsea Polytechnic, where she was taught wood engraving by Robert Day, and joined an etching class run by Graham Sutherland, then firmly under the influence of country traditionalists such as Samuel Palmer and Edward Calvert. To this period belongs her etching *The Miracle*, which shows the Virgin Mary as a homely figure, digging up cabbages.

On a skiing holiday in 1927, she met her husband, Christopher Sandford, who shared her love of good printing (his interest was in type-setting). When they returned they took up the running of the Devon-based Boar's Head Press as a joint enterprise, he setting the type and she illustrating some of the volumes, the best of which was a book of Sappho's poetry. In 1933 the Sandfords bought the Golden Cockerel Press, then in financial difficulties, from the engraver Robert Gibbings. Gradually Christopher Sandford imposed his own taste on the choice of texts and artists, while continuing to support the Press's big names — Eric Gill, Eric Ravilious and Blair Hughes-Stanton — and trying to produce books that the buying public could actually afford.

Lettice Sandford worked on illustrations for three of these: *The Golden Bird of Kydno* (1935), *The Song of Songs* on copper (1936), and *The Greek Anthology* on zinc (1937). By now heavily influenced by the simple lines of Matisse, and with a sensuous approach to the female form coming through in works like *Aphrodite's Cockerel* (1939), she was at the height of her powers.

In 1936 the Sandfords moved to a 20-roomed manor house near Leominster, which acted as a base for soldiers and evacuated schoolchildren during the war. Lettice Sandford became interested in older art forms, particularly corn dollies and, after the war she established herself as the subject's leading authority, making two huge, seven foot "corn maidens" for the harvest celebrations in production of Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* at Covent Garden.

In 1958, a year before they sold the Golden Cockerel Press to an American publisher, the Sandfords opened Eye Manor to the public. It was not a stately home but its off-beat charm and home-made tea drew a number of visitors, not least the folk enthusiasts for the corn dolly museum. Lettice Sandford was pleased to turn from a lifetime of working on print to dealing with people, but continued occasionally to illustrate in pen and ink for the Folio Society and the Golden Cockerel.

After her husband's death in 1983 Lettice Sandford moved to a cottage and took up watercolours — a medium well-suited to the misty border climate of the area. She was a familiar sight at local beauty spots with her large straw hat, folding chair and easel.

She leaves a son and two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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CRICKET.

THE ENGLISH TEAM v. AUSTRALIA
THE FIRST TEST MATCH.
SYDNEY, DEC. 14

The Englishmen's total today of 577 is the second highest ever obtained in a test match, while Foster's innings of 287 beat all records in the test games between England and Australia . . .

The attendance at the end of the afternoon was 12,000. At the drawing of stumps on Saturday the score stood—Australia, first innings, 285; England, 243 for four wickets.

Foster, not out, 73, and Brannd, not out, 67, went on with England's innings to-day, Noble and Howell bowling . . .

On completing their hundreds the batsmen were enthusiastically cheered. Immediately afterwards, with the total at 309, Brannd, in attempting an off drive, was bowled by Howell . . .

Hirst came in next, but without making a run was bowled by a break back from Howell. Bosanquet joined Foster, and at 314 Noble bowled in place of Laver, from whom so far 65 runs had been scored. A brilliant catch at slip soon got rid of Bosanquet, and at lunch the total stood at 318 for seven wickets. Foster was not out 109. When the game was resumed

ON THIS DAY

December 15 1903

Many great names of cricket appeared in this game: for England, Warner, Hayward, Hirst, Bosanquet, Rhodes; Australia - Trumper, Armstrong, Gregory, Noble. Foster, an amateur, who played for Worcester was also an outstanding footballer with six England caps.

Lilley went in, but was caught at long-off when the score had been increased to 332. From this point the batting completely mastered the bowling. Relf, the next in, played a defensive game and left all the run-getting to Foster, who, settling down again into his best form, gave a brilliant display, driving with great power and making a number of good late cuts. He was greatly cheered when he passed Noble's score of 133, his innings having then lasted nearly four hours and three-quarters. At 347 Saunders took the place of Howell, who had so far today bowled 14 overs five maidens for 34 runs and two wickets. Foster, as time went on, caused several changes of bowling, and was repeatedly cheered for his brilliant hitting. At 365 Armstrong took the ball from Saunders. A little later Noble, who had taken three wickets for 72 runs, gave way to Laver. Relf continued to play with great patience and care, risking nothing, but Foster showed great freedom, all bowling coming alike to him. Trumper bowled for Armstrong at 381, Hopkins for Laver at 386, and Howell for Trumper at 395.

After tea Rhodes joined Foster, and Armstrong bowled in place of Gregory. Foster was cheered enthusiastically when he beat the record score in test matches—Murdoch's 211 at the Oval in 1894. Runs came steadily, and at 480 Noble bowled again for Saunders. However, at 493 he gave way to Laver. Foster was troubled by a sore finger and was evidently getting tired. When 500 went up the innings had been in progress just over seven hours and a half . . . There was great cheering when Foster's score reached 250. Runs came very fast, and at 571 Noble took the ball from Laver. At last the innings came to an end. Foster, amid tremendous cheering, equalled the Australian total off his own bat, but having made 287 he was caught at mid-off. His marvellous display extended over seven hours and included 45 fours.

THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15 1993

NEWS

Hopes grow over trade treaty

■ Hopes of a global trade pact opening markets between more than 100 countries grew last night after Europe and America cleared the biggest obstacle to a world treaty.

But negotiations are likely to continue right up to tomorrow morning's deadline as other nations sharply objected to some of the deals agreed by the world's two biggest trading blocs Pages 1, 10

Victims to receive less compensation

■ Women and children who are raped or sexually assaulted will receive much less compensation under Government proposals. The plans may mean that women receive as little as a third of some present awards. A White Paper will also suggest cuts of up to 90 per cent in compensation for the families of murder and manslaughter victims Page 1

Tense talks

John Major and Albert Reynolds were locked in tense last-minute negotiations on the contents of a joint declaration that both hope could open the way to permanent peace in Ulster Pages 1, 2

Reformists wrangle

Defeated Russian reformists wrangled over their election humiliation, while Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the far-right leader, declared he was ready to enter any coalition Pages 1, 12, 13

Thorp go-ahead

John Gummer will give the go-ahead for the £2.8 billion Thorp nuclear reprocessing plant at Sellafield, Cumbria. British Nuclear Fuels Ltd can begin operating its thermal oxide reprocessing plant in weeks Page 2

SS guard deported

A British citizen who served as an SS guard in an Nazi concentration camp abandoned his attempt to fight deportation from America to Britain. Alexander Schweidler, 71, agreed rather than face deportation proceedings in Miami, Florida Page 4

Dubious validity

The English tests for 14-year-olds that sparked this summer's teaching boycott were of "dubious validity", the Office for Standards in Education said Page 4

Babic elected

Voters in the breakaway Serb regions of Croatia have chosen Milan Babic, a nationalist maverick Page 11

Tax bills to rise

Average council tax bills in England are likely to rise by 1.7 per cent as town halls struggle to keep down costs before local elections in May. Some councils look likely to present taxpayers with rises in double figures Page 6

German links

Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Russian neo-Fascist, pledged to build links with Germany's extreme-right parties and back their challenge to the postwar German-Polish border Pages 1, 12, 13

Street shooting

Two men were under armed police guard in hospital after a street shooting was followed by a car chase and a murder attempt at the doors of the casualty department Page 5

Computer violence

Violent video films and computer games may cause some children to become aggressive, and psychiatrists say more children are carrying weapons featured in films Page 5

Bishop condemned

The Bishop of Durham was condemned by evangelicals and traditionalists for his rejection of the concept of eternal damnation in a tortuous hell and the second coming of Christ Page 6

US segregation

After 25 years of sustained progress towards racial integration, American schools are becoming more segregated, according to a Harvard report Page 11

Rustlers put bird breeders in a flap

■ Budgerigar breeders have been given a warning that professional rustlers are stealing prize birds to order. A dozen breeding pairs were taken from an aviary in Suffolk. Police believe the birds may have been shipped across the Channel or further afield. Suspicion has fallen on South American breeders Page 9

SIMON WALKER



Julia Clements, of Sotheby's, with two pieces from yesterday's sale in London of the Elton John jewellery collection

BUSINESS

Trafalgar: The QE2, Ritz hotel, engineering and construction conglomerate, has been rescued from almost certain collapse in a deal between Hongkong Land and the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Group Page 21

Pensions: Noble Lowndes and Partners, the financial consultancy, has been fined £740,000 by the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation for breaches of rules Page 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 6.2 to 3248.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 81.5 to 81.7 after a rise from DM2.5393 to DM2.5519 but a fall from $1.4918 to $1.4892 Page 24

SPORT

Yachting: Guido Maisto and his crew aboard *Brooksfield*, which had to be rescued 12 days ago, made an emotional arrival in Fremantle at the end of the second leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race Page 35

Football: The process by which the draw for the 1994 World Cup will be made has been changed from that indicated by Fifa, the sport's world governing body, only a few days ago Pages 1, 40

Cricket: Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram bowled Pakistan to a dramatic victory in the second Test match in Rawalpindi after Zimbabwe collapsed from 135 for one to 187 all out Page 38

FEATURES

Broken silence: The crypt of St Mark's Basilica in Venice has opened for worship after 20 years of scientifically advanced restoration Page 14

Friendly support: One of Bill Clinton's first acts as president was to order a special postcode so his Arkansas friends could write to him privately. Martin Fletcher on how the President keeps in touch with the real world Page 15

MEDIA

Bumper crop: Over the past three years, sales of national newspapers on Saturdays have risen by more than a million Page 28

ARTS

Christmas legacy: When it was first published in 1843, Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* caused a sensation. And in the 150 years since, it has has been adapted more frequently than any other of his works. Jeremy Kingston celebrates Page 29

Orchestral manoeuvres: The BBC governors and management are committing themselves to the future of the BBC orchestras, but have warned that working practices must change Page 31

Regretting nothing: Elaine Paige captures the spirit, if not the soul, of the tragic French singer Edith Piaf in a West End revival of Pam Gems's play Page 30

FROM EARLIER TIMES



Mickey Kantor, the American trade representative, denied that France had defeated America on film and television limits
Page 10



Leigh-Ann Johns, who lost her legs and two best friends to a drunk driver, has joined criticism of the leniency of sentence meted out to the killer
Page 3



Pele has been confined to the subs' bench during the draw for football's World Cup USA '94, which launches the event in America
Pages 1, 40

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Mel's men in tights

■ Endless jokes about private parts, laborious displays of bad taste: Mel Brooks does it again in his latest film, *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*

Skiing the Christian way

■ When does *après ski* mean worship, teaching, prayer and romantic sleigh rides? Ruth Gledhill takes a look at Christian ski holidays at home and abroad

From Russia with hate

■ Reviews of books on racist violence and nationalism in Eastern Europe, 20th-century Russian poetry and Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, the former Soviet republic

TV LISTINGS

Two agents who infiltrated Northern Ireland paramilitary groups are featured in *States of Terror* (BBC1, 9.30pm) Page 39

OPINION

The new Moscow

Boris Yeltsin still governs Russia, and the new constitution gives him extensive power to set foreign and domestic policies. By 1996, when Vladimir Zhirinovsky has announced that he will run for the presidency, reforms could be beginning to pay dividends provided Mr Yeltsin stays what will be a tough course Page 17

To hell from Durham

The usefulness of the Bishop of Durham's pronouncements about the after-life is that they provoke those with a firmer faith to debate the mysteries of the Christian Church Page 17

All-time greats

Since the Babylonians sought to organise the planets by sums, humans have been trying to simplify life by lists Page 17

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

You do not double-bluff the Ulster Unionists. Perfidy-spotting runs in Unionist blood. For a century they have watched Whitehall wriggle and scheme to rid itself of Ulster. For a century they have played the Orange card at Westminster with lethal success ... There was no peace. Now London is up to its old tricks Page 16

WOODROW WYATT

There is no crisis over the Prince's succession. But the Church of England is in a critical state, in far more danger than the monarchy. Most who give it a nodding observance simply do not believe in its doctrines Page 16

ALAN COREN

My habitual Christmas practice had been to rush around on December 24, scooping up armfuls of unisex fragrances and books so that loved ones would have something to exchange. But this year, I wanted loved ones to have what they wanted Page 16

LETTERS

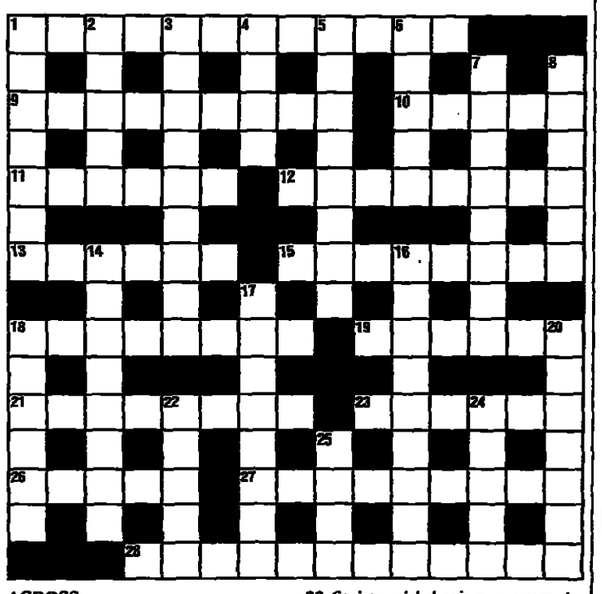
The merits of fair funding for higher education Page 17

THE PAPERS

The best course would be for the fractious democrats to recognise the Zhirinovsky phenomenon as a cold splash of reality

— The Wall Street Journal

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,414



ACROSS

1 Unfinished line in literary collection is proper study for us (12).
9 Colt, perhaps, gets a jocular greeting (3,2,1,3).
10 The city without an idiot (5).
11 Early prints of Moses' birthplace (6).
12 Tease the crank for not being hearty (8).
13 Headed police off (6).
15 Pronounced bonny in her youth? (8).
18 Suffering from sting, and distressed (8).
19 Can the minister include a song of praise? (6).
21 Diplomatic individual for a spokesman (8).
23 Happened to act the part of the unlovable doctor (6).
26 Old bag writing endlessly (5).
27 Getting ready before shaving (9).
28 Society girl having a perm is quick on her feet (6-6).

DOWN

1 A policy-maker, like a certain monarch (7).
2 Capital is subject to VAT (5).
3 Aussie flyer gets sack over prison sentence (5-4).
4 Try to support flower with a stick (4).
5 One leering, perhaps, at underwear (8).
6 Was punished, it's understood (3,2).
7 Monster horse covered with insects (8).
8 Mushroom feast (6).
14 The home of animal husbandry (5,3).
16 Little Corporal, they say, cut the knave (5-4).
17 Not exactly a top-liner in the world's crime busters (8).
18 A painstaking pleasure-seeker? (6).
20 A line spoken in the script is defamatory (7).
22 Sort of furniture the salesman starts to rave over (5).
24 English cricket team finds way to survive (5).
25 Clothing to be changed en route (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,413

A	B	S	O	L	U	T	E	■	A	■	M	■	B	
■	U	■	U	■	N	■	S	A	P	P	H	I	R	E
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■	L	■	O	V	E	R	E	X	E	R	C	I	S	E
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I	■	R	■	I	■	N	■	N	O	T	E	■	■	
T	R	U	E	B	L	U	E	■	G	■	O	■	T	
Y	M	■	S	■	T	H	E	O	R	I	E	S	■	

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 21 of the 22 competitors in the 1993 national final of The Times Knockando Crossword Championship.

Times Two Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouca,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Much of the country will have showers, heavy and frequent in the west, with some hail and thunder. Snow is likely on northern and western hills. The best of any brightness will be over eastern parts of Scotland and England this morning. Persistent and heavy rain in the northwest will move southeast. It will be a windy day with gales in many parts of the south and west. Outlook: unsettled and windy with showers, some prolonged.

ABROAD

MIDDAY; t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun, sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	f	Madrid	6	43	f
Akrotiri	17	63	s	Majorca	15	59	f
Alex'dria	18	64	f	Malaga	14	57	f
Algiers	17	63	f	Malta	19	66	s
Amst'dm	4	39	s	Melb'rne	21	70	f
Athens	15	59	c	Mexico C*	18	64	s
Bahrain	22	72	s	Miami*	23	73	c
Bangkok	33	91	s	Milan	4	39	r
Barbados*	29	84	c	Montreal*	0	32	s
Barcelona	9	48	f	Moscow	-2	28	c
Beirut	14	57	s	Munich	3	37	f
Belgrade	9	48	r	Nairobi	23	73	f
Berlin	2	36	d	Naples	15	59	f
Bermuda*	19	66	f	N Delhi	19	66	s
Biarritz	10	50	c	N York*	7	45	s
Bordeaux	9	48	c	Nice	11	52	f
Brussels	3	37	f	Oslo	-12	10	f
Budapest	7	45	f	Paris	5	41	f
B Aires*	26	79	f	Peking	-2	28	s
Cairo	19	66	f	Perth	24	75	s
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Prague	6	43	f
Chicago*	7	45	f	Reykjavik	3	37	c
Ch'church	17	63	f	Rhodes	15	59	s
Cologne	2	36	r	Rio de J	30	86	f
C'pnhgn	1	30	s	Riyadh	24	75	s
Corfu	14	57	c	Rome	20	68	s
Dublin	5	41	c	Salzburg	4	39	r
Dubrovnik	14	57	c	S F'risco*	10	50	s
Faro	14	57	s	Santiago*	27	81	s
Florence	10	50	c	Seoul	-3	27	s
Frankfurt	7	45	r	Sing'por	29	84	f
Funchal	16	61	c	St'kholm	-9	16	s
Geneva	5	41	s	Strasb'rg	8	46	r
Gibraltar	12	54	s	Sydney	26	79	c
Helsinki	-3	27	sn	Tangier	13	55	f
Hong K	15	59	f	Tel Aviv	15	59	c
Innsbruck	2	36	sl	Tenerife	19	66	c
Istanbul	10	50	s	Tokyo	10	50	c
Jeddah	27	81	f	Toronto*	5	41	s
Jo'burg*	24	75	s	Tunis	17	63	r
Karachi	27	81	s	Valencia	11	52	r
L Palmas	20	68	c	Venice	8	46	r
La Tquet	5	41	f	Venice	8	46	f
Lisbon	12	54	f	Vienna	3	37	f
Locarno	6	41	d	Warsaw	-3	27	f
L Angels*	15	59	s	Wash'ton*	10	50	s
Luxemb'g	1	34	sn	Wel'ngton	18	64	s
Luxor	21	70	s	Zurich	6	43	s

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6pm to 6am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6pm, 59 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 4.7hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,004.3 millibars, falling
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, Channel Islands, 13C (55F). lowest day max: Aviemore, Highland, 2C (36F). highest rainfall: Newcastle upon Tyne, 0.64in. highest sunshine: Tiree, Inner Hebrides, 5.1hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 3C (37F), min 6pm to 6pm, -3C (27F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.01in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 6C (43F). min 6pm to 6am, -4C (25F). Rain 24hr to 6pm, 0.57in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil

AROUND BRITAIN

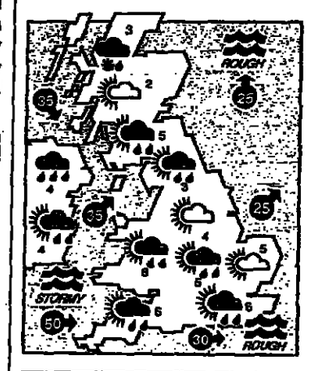
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.5	0.09	5	41	bright
Anglesey	-	0.44	7	45	rain
Aviemore	-	0.18	2	36	snow
Belfast	1.1	0.30	6	43	shower
Birmingham	-	0.05	8	46	rain
Bognor Regis	2.6	0.30	10	50	rain
Bournemouth	1.5	0.06	11	52	shower
Bristol	0.4	0.20	9	48	rain
Buxton	-	0.37	6	43	shower
Cardiff	0.4	0.19	10	50	shower
Clacton	1.8	0.16	10	50	rain
Cromer	0.1	0.20			x rain
Eastbourne	1.2	0.48	10	50	shower
Edinburgh	-	0.53	6	43	hail
Eskdalemuir	-	0.38	3	37	hail
Exmouth	0.7	0.13	9	48	shower
Falmouth	1.2	0.14	9	48	shower
Folkestone	1.1	0.37	9	48	cloudy
Glasgow	2.7	0.32	5	41	sleet
Guernsey	1.7	0.23	13	55	rain
Hastings	1.2	0.39	10	50	shower
Isle of Man	0.5	0.35	7	45	rain
Jersey	2.0	0.41	10	50	shower
Kinloss	0.1	0.06	5	41	cloudy
Leeds	-	0.44	4	39	shower
Lerwick	-	0.04	3	37	snow
Littlehampton	2.2	0.31	11	52	shower
Liverpool	-	0.24	5	41	rain
London	1.4	0.06	11	52	rain
Manchester	-	0.10	6	43	rain
Margate	X	0.13	10	50	rain
Mildenhall	X	0.20	9	48	shower
Morecambe	-	0.57	6	43	dull
Newcastle	-	0.64	5	41	shower
Nottingham	-	0.29	643		
Penzance	-	0.15	9	48	gale
Plymouth	0.4	0.15	9	48	shower
Poole	1.9	0.12	11	52	rain
Saunton Snd	-	0.19	9	48	shower
Scarborough	-	0.31	7	45	shower
Shanklin	2.0	0.24	9	48	rain
Southsea	2.9	0.22	10	50	cloudy
Stornoway	0.8	0.01	6	43	shower
Swanage	2.1	0.34	10	50	rain
Teignmouth	1.7	0.15	10	50	shower
Tenby	-	0.29	9	48	cloudy
Tiree	5.1	0.07	6	43	sunny
Torquay	1.8	0.43	10	50	cloudy
Weymouth	1.0	0.20	10	50	rain

TOURIST RATES

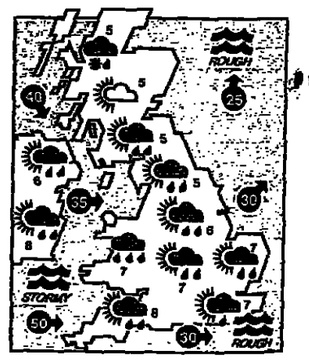
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.36	2.16
Austria Sch	18.76	17.26
Belgium Fr	55.12	51.72
Canada $	2.096	1.935
Cyprus Cypf	0.7675	0.7375
Denmark Kr	10.51	9.710
Finland Mkk	9.17	8.370
France Fr	9.12	8.42
Germany Dm	2.68 2.47	
Greece Dr	383.50	358.50
Hong Kong $	12.20	11.20
Ireland Pl	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2593.0	2436
Japan Yen	180.50	161.00
Malta	0.625	0.570
Netherlands Gld	2.980	2.750
Norway Kr	11.67	10.77
Portugal Esc	269.00	250.50
South Africa Rd	5.75	4.85
Spain Pta	216.00	202.00
Sweden Kr	13.02	12.22
Switzerland Fr	2.30	2.12
Turkey Lira	21269.0	20209.0
USA $	1.582	1.462

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 3.52 pm to 8.00 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.09 am
Edinburgh 3.38 pm to 8.38 am
Manchester 3.49 pm to 8.19 am
Penzance 3.20 pm to 8.15 am

Sun rises: 8.00 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon sets 6.32 pm
Moon rises 9.24 am
First Quarter December 20

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

YESTERDAY

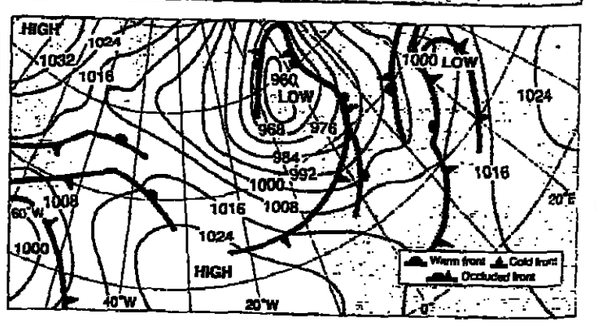
Temperatures at midday yesterday. c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	2	36	sl	Guernsey	5	41	f
B'mingham	1	34	f	Inverness	5	41	f
Blackpool	4	39	f	Jersey	6	43	f
Bristol	3	37	f	London	5	41	s
Cardiff	5	41	c	M'nchster	1	34	s
Edinburgh	3	37	sl	Newcastle	2	36	f
Glasgow	3	37	r	R'nldsway	5	41	r

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.42	7.0	3.5	7.3	Liverpool			12.5	9.7
Aberdeen	2.13	4.3	2.20	4.4	Lowestoft	10.33	2.5	10.35	2.6
Avonmouth	8.16	13.5	8.39	13.2	Margate	12.42	2.5	10.35	2.5
Belfast			12.5	3.7	Milford Haven	7.14	7.2	7.37	6.9
Cardiff	8.1	12.5	8.34	12.2	Newquay	6.4	7.2	6.27	6.9
Devonport	6.51	5.7	7.15	5.4	Oban	6.36	4.2	6.51	3.9
Dover			12.4	6.7	Penzance	5.49	5.8	6.15	5.5
Falmouth	6.21	5.5	6.45	5.2	Portland	7.33	2.3	9.3	2.0
Glasgow	1.37	4.7	2.0	5.2	Portsmouth	12.7	4.9	12.22	4.9
Harwich	12.35	4.0	12.59	4.2	Shoreham			12.5	6.3
Holyhead	11.16	5.8	11.47	5.5	Southampton	11.49	4.8		
Hull	7.20	7.4	7.31	7.8	Swansea	7.13	9.7	7.35	9.4
Ilfracombe	6.57	9.5	7.20	9.2	Tees	4.38	5.5	4.49	5.6
King's Lynn	7.30	6.7	7.37	6.9	W'ton-on-Nze	12.26	4.2	12.53	4.3
Leith	3.41	5.7	3.53	6.6					

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1993. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 071-782 5000 and at Knowsley Park Industrial Estate, Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HY, telephone 051-546 2000 Wednesday, December 15, 1993. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل



MEDIA 28

Bosnia madness in Channel 4's Christmas



ARTS 29-31

A Christmas Carol: 150 years of barring humbug



SPORT 35-40

Johnson tees up for No. 1 spot

A PLACE FOR A PRINCESS
Homes 33

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15 1993



SIMON WALKER

Simon Keswick said yesterday that Trafalgar House had made a lot of mistakes, but there were some fine businesses inside it

Trafalgar saved from collapse by HK bank

BY NEIL BENNETT

TRAFALGAR House, the QE2, Ritz hotel, engineering and construction conglomerate, has been rescued from almost certain collapse in a last-ditch deal between Hongkong Land, it largest shareholder, and the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Group to secure a £300 million lending lifeline.

Simon Keswick, the head of Hongkong Land and now the chairman of Trafalgar, turned for help to Sir William Purves, chairman of the Hongkong Bank, when he realised the extent of Trafalgar's losses would shatter its banking covenants. Sir William agreed to supply the emergency lending facility on the condition that Hongkong Land, part of the Jardine Matheson business empire, stood by to support Trafalgar. Jardine and the Hongkong Bank are the two most powerful companies in Hong Kong with a close relationship that goes back more than a century.

Trafalgar announced a pre-tax loss for the year to September 30 of £347 million after its suffered exceptional write-downs, and rationalisation provisions of £397 million.

Mr Keswick yesterday suggested that Trafalgar had been let down by its head office management, "run until last year by Sir Nigel Broakes as chairman and Sir Eric Parker as chief executive. "Trafalgar made a lot of mistakes, but underlying it there were some fine businesses which were forced to overtrade because the group company had no asset backing," he added.

The group also revealed the terms of a £404 million convertible preference rights issue and placing to repair the balance sheet. Sharehholders are being asked to buy one 6 per cent convertible at 100p for every three shares they hold. After the issue, the group should have no net borrowing.

Despite his optimism, the group has said there will no recovery in its main markets until 1995. It is paying a 2p final dividend, but warned shareholders that it will only pay 1p for all of next year.

Trafalgar's losses have slashed net assets to £281 million, well below the £500 million minimum dicatated by the group's banking covenants. As a result, Trafalgar was forced to ask its 160 banks to suspend the covenants until the end of February, to allow it to collect the money from the convertible issue. Only two Japanese banks refused and they have been repaid out of the Midland loan. Without the Midland loan, their refusal could have forced Trafalgar, one of Europe's largest construction and engineering groups, into administration or receivership.

Mr Keswick said that the group might not have survived without HSBC's help. "It would have found it extremely difficult to continue trading because of its banking covenants," he said.

Trafalgar has suffered a heavy blow in the North Sea where it owns the Emerald Producer oil rig. Midland & Scottish Resources, the rig's operator, has discovered that the Emerald field contains only about 15 million barrels of recoverable oil, not the 42 million it thought originally. The company defaulted on its lease payments to Trafalgar in September, and Trafalgar has been forced to write down the value of the rig from £66 million to £23.9 million.

Tempus, page 31

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

DIALOGUE

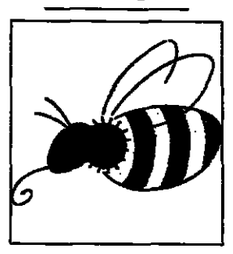
LWT

LWT, the independent television contractor fighting off a bid from Granada, confirmed it is talking to Yorkshire-Tyne Tees
Page 23

EPILOGUE

Christmas is later this year, especially in the shops. The festive season will be tough and prices competitive
Page 22

PROLOGUE



National & Provincial is to transfer money in dormant accounts to accounts paying a better rate of interest
Page 23

CATALOGUE

Southern Electricity raised its half year dividend 19.6 per cent, a modest rise compared with rivals
Page 23

Financial services cut from Gatt agreement

FROM COLIN NARBROUGH IN GENEVA AND DEREK HARRIS IN LONDON

■ *Financial services was a surprise omission from the final agreement on world trade, reached after seven years of complex negotiations in Geneva involving American and European lobbies*

THE promised liberation of the worldwide financial services industry has been put off after America and the EC failed to find a joint position in the closing moments of the world trade talks.

America also put the world on notice that it would withdraw most favoured nation (MFN) treatment from countries that failed to give increased access to American banks and insurance companies. The threat prompted a warning from the EC that it might reciprocate.

America's powerful financial services industry lobbied hard to open up markets in the seven-year Uruguay Round of negotiations, but the Clinton administration sabotaged any chances of a deal by putting forward proposals almost purpose-built to be rejected by the EC and other countries.

The core issue was the American demand for a two-tier system that ran directly counter to the MFN principle at the heart of Gatt rules. The US position was, however, consistent with the tough stance Washington has taken when insisting on its right to use American trade law to impose sanctions in pursuit of fair trade.

At the end of the marathon Gatt negotiations in Geneva yesterday, Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, and Sir Leon Brittan, the EC trade commissioner, announced that they had failed to reach agreement in four main areas, including financial services, which potentially offer dynamic growth for the Americans and Europeans.

Mr Kantor said the financial services agreement America had sought was for a substantial market access deal as well as national treatment, which would enable it to enter unconditional obligations to give MFN status and unlimited access to the US market. "Unfortunately, with December 15 (the Uruguay Round deadline) only a day away, it is clear that many countries are unable to make good offers," he said. Mr Kantor said US strategy was aimed at opening up financial markets to US companies by encouraging other countries to liberalise their regulations.

Under his proposed arrangement, after the Uruguay Round comes into effect next year, countries will be given six months in which to submit their offers of better market access for the Americans.

Analysts believe the financial markets have already factored in a Uruguay Round deal and would react badly only if the final agreement started to unravel. The financial services strategy adopted by the Clinton Administration will delay progress for about 18 months. Only then is America expected to decide what policy it will finally adopt.

America has the world's largest services sector. In particular, it has numerous big firms with global reach in financial services. Mr Kantor said US financial presence overseas created income and supported American exports and investment.

Although America has agreed to tougher anti-dumping rules and to the creation of a multilateral trade organisation to replace the Gatt ultimately, Mr Kantor sought yesterday to emphasise that the US was far from having abandoned its own weaponry for resolving trade disputes.

Hugo Paeman, the EC's chief negotiator to the Gatt, said Brussels had been anxious to get a deal to liberalise financial services globally, but the US proposal was two-tier and not based on the MFN principle. He said the EC would, "if necessary", be in a position to apply reciprocal measures to those Washington had threatened. He believed America's trade weapons would be subject to multilateral Gatt rules, even if they were not part of the world trade deal.

The lack of a Gatt agreement on financial services was described by the British Bankers' Association (BBA) as "potentially very serious" for UK financial services. It raised questions over banking and securities activity in America by almost all British high street banks. Banks such as HSBC, which includes Midland, National Westminster, Barclays and Standard Chartered all have a strong American presence as do some merchant banks. Lloyds is the least exposed of the clearers.

Despite close market links between London and New York, British financial institutions could find their rights imperilled by being part of the EC, warned Bob Blower, the BBA's assistant director. US financial services companies have chafed at difficulties in penetrating some other EC national markets, including Germany, Spain, Portugal and Greece.

Gatt agreement, page 1
Gatt boost, page 25

Noble Lowndes fined £740,000 by Imro

BY SARA MCCONNELL
PERSONAL FINANCE CORRESPONDENT

NOBLE Lowndes and Partners, the financial consultancy, has been fined £740,000 by the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro) for four breaches of rules, including "systematic churning" of clients' investments by four consultants in its personal financial services division. Compensation paid to customers so far totals £580,000.

The fine is the second imposed since Imro raised its maximum fine from £150,000 to £1 million. Noble Lowndes was also ordered to pay Imro's costs of £45,000. The previous highest fine, imposed on Invesco MIM, the fund management company, was £750,000 for five rule breaches, plus costs of £1.6 million. Noble Lowndes admitted that four consultants, two in the North East and two in the Midlands, had "engaged in systematic churning", switching lump-sum investments made by 225 clients from one sort of policy to another between May 1988 and February 1992. These included cases where clients were switched out of investment bonds and into with-profits or distribution bonds.

Robert Walker, brought in as managing director of Noble Lowndes personal financial services division after Sedgwick bought the company from TSB in September, said: "People were looking for less volatile products in the late 1980s and there was a strong reason to be attracted to these. ". However, the consultants moved clients who had been in investments only a short time. They stood to make commission every time they churned an investment.

Imro also found that in the same period, the four consultants gave unsuitable advice to 115 of the 225 clients. It is believed that the advice given to the remaining customers turned out to be suitable.

Poor record-keeping formed the basis for a third charge. A review of 27 consultants' customer files showed that 177 contained "inadequate evidence of customers' personal and financial circumstances", 180 contained "inadequate documentation or rationale to support transactions" and 300 contained "inadequate documentation of the steps taken to ensure customer understanding of risks".

Noble Lowndes also admitted that from April 1988 to June 1993, it had failed to set up and maintain proper compliance procedures to identify potential churning.

Since Imro's investigation began in April this year, Noble Lowndes has been sold by TSB to Sedgwick. Sedgwick has appointed a new managing director of the personal financial services division and a new compliance officer as part of a restructuring of its personal financial services business. As part of the sale and purchase agreement TSB undertook to pay the fine, costs and compensation. BDO Binder Hamlyn, the chartered accountancy firm, was appointed by Noble Lowndes to carry out a review which is not yet complete. Any other customers who have suffered will also be paid compensation.

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US $ 1.4892 -0.0026

GOLD

$387.10 per oz

BRENT CRUDE

$13.90 per barrel (Feb)

6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 24, SHARE PRICES PAGE 27

CBI says shoppers are delaying Christmas spree

Season of gloom for retailers

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SHOPPERS are delaying Christmas spending until even later this year, the Confederation of British Industry said. Its latest distributive trades survey painted a gloomy picture of business in retailing, wholesaling and the motor trade.

The survey suggests that retailers face another tough Christmas, and that prices are likely to remain highly competitive. Nigel Whittaker, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades panel, said that in each of the past few years, customers had begun "really serious" Christmas shopping later, and the trend was continuing.

CBI leaders, though, declined to forecast whether retailers would have a good or bad Christmas overall. They said retailers expected an increase in sales volumes in December, though only to levels seen in the autumn. Andrew Sentance, CBI economics director, said: "This is perhaps retailers' hopes rather than expectations."

Government figures on retail sales will be published today, together with the latest retail prices index.

In advance of that, the CBI said that taking retailing, wholesaling and the motor trade together, sales volumes rose in the year to November, though at the slowest rate since August. Growth is expected to slow further in December. Employment has also fallen again, and the CBI said it was expected to fall further still. The key findings of the CBI survey — covering 15,000 outlets and carried out between November 9 and December 1, were:

- In retailing, sales volumes are growing at a slower rate than previously and sales are below average for the time of year and have worsened since October.
- In wholesaling, November sales volume growth was less robust than in October, and wholesalers are continuing to raise prices significantly compared with a year ago.
- The increase in motor trade sales volumes continued at a similar rate to October, though total employment has been cut back further — with more cuts to follow.



The CBI says serious Christmas shopping has begun later in each of the past few years and the trend continues

Building costs set to rise

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

CONSTRUCTION prices are expected to rise by more than 8 per cent over the next two years, according to the quarterly survey of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, published today.

The institution's building cost information service says prices are more than 20 per cent below their 1989 peak but will be 2.5 per cent higher in 1994-5 than in 1993-4.

The BCIS construction prices index shows that construction tender prices have risen 2.8 per cent in the past year, and are expected to rise 2.7 per cent in 1994 and as much as 5.4 per cent the following year.

Since the middle of this year, the service says, building material prices have outstripped inflation. Labour and material costs rose 3.4 per cent in 1993 and are expected to continue to increase.

Chartered surveyors believe that the outlook for the construction industry was not improved by the Budget, and that competition in the industry will remain intense over the next three years as public spending cutbacks result in reduced overall demand.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Terrorism fund meets Bishopsgate costs

RATE increases for terrorism insurance cover, forced through by the Department of Trade and Industry in July, are expected to save the Government from having to pay towards the costs of the Bishopsgate bomb in the City of London. Insurance premiums paid into Pool Re, the reinsurance company set up following an agreement between the Government and the insurance industry last Christmas, are said to exceed £300 million.

The blast triggered claims of £500 million and the bulk of the difference between Pool Re's funds will be covered by insurers, who still provide cover of £100,000 on five separate classes of claims. As a result, the Government is not expected to be called upon as insurer of last resort and premium rates payable by companies are not expected to be increased in the short term. Some companies and local authorities located in high-risk areas suffered rates increases of up to 300 per cent in July. Yesterday, National Westminster Bank said work on the refurbishment of the NatWest tower, which was badly damaged in the bombing in April, would start late next summer. A design team, led by GMW, the architects, has been appointed and is expected to have proposals ready by the spring.

Change at GrandMet

GRAND Metropolitan, the food, drinks and retailing group, announced the appointment as finance director of Gerald Corbett, currently finance director of Redland, the building products company. He replaces David Nash, who is to become chairman and chief executive of GrandMet's food sector. The change takes effect early next month and follows a shake-up in September when George Bull, then head of the food division, became the new group chief executive and Ian Martin, group managing director, became non-executive deputy chairman.

Halma moves ahead

HALMA, the safety and environmental technology group, reported a 23.8 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £10.1 million in the 26 weeks to October 2, in spite of the harsh trading conditions affecting many of its markets. Turnover, boosted by acquisition, increased 21.7 per cent to £62 million, with direct exports ahead 34 per cent to £18 million and overseas sales up 37 per cent to £33.7 million. Earnings climbed 21.2 per cent to 3.43p (2.83p) a share and the interim dividend has been raised to 0.933p (0.777p). Halma shares added 6p to 220p.

Peat Marwick up 1%

KPMG Peat Marwick, the accountancy and financial group, increased total fee income by almost 1 per cent to £491.8 million (£488.8 million) in the year to September 30. It was helped by strong gains from corporate finance, up 21 per cent to £64.6 million. The mainstream audit practice, which accounts for 40 per cent of total fee income, slipped 1.3 per cent to £197.7 million, while corporate recovery declined 4 per cent to £53.5 million and management consultancy fell 7.2 per cent to £72.1 million. During the year, the firm acted in 29 major flotations.

BTG buys for £1.1m

BUSINESS Technology Group, which has asked the Stock Exchange to investigate moves in its share price, is expanding its photocopier interests by buying Automatic Business Communications for £1.1 million. The deal is being funded by a £3.1 million share offer and placing at 12¾p. Existing shares rose 2p to 15p. Alan Baldwin, chairman, is also putting the loss-making Ultimate Vending Systems up for sale. On Monday, Business Technology said its share price had risen significantly since last week's pre-marketing of the cash-raising plan.

Southern Radio boost

IMPROVED advertising revenue helped Southern Radio, the group which broadcasts in Hampshire, Sussex and Kent, to increase profits by 23.5 per cent in the year to September 30. It reported pre-tax profits up from £774,000 to £956,000 on turnover up 12.6 per cent to £8.61 million in the first full year of trading since the merger with Invicta Radio. Reduced costs and lower financing charges also helped profits. Earnings rose to 2.26p (2.02p) a share. The total dividend improves to 1.25p (0.794p), with a proposed final payout of 0.95p. The shares added 8p to 66p.

David Lloyd delivers

SHARES in David Lloyd Leisure, the company formed by the Davis Cup tennis player, rose 11p to 208p on its maiden full-year results since being floated last March at 150p a share. Investors will receive a final dividend of 1.95p. The group, which runs health and fitness clubs, revealed taxable profits up 84 per cent to £5.7 million (£3 million) in the year to September 30. This outstripped the flotation profits forecast of £5.5 million. Earnings per share jumped 37 per cent to 10.85p. Mr Lloyd said that yearly membership renewals were ahead of budget.

Protean seeks £10m

PROTEAN, the scientific instrument maker, is raising £10 million through a share placing and open offer to finance expansion plans. Investors are being offered one new share for every four held at 180p each. Protean is acquiring Techne Corporation, a a maker of controlled temperature equipment, for £5.4 million, and LIP (Equipment & Services) for £2.9 million. Protean reported a 26 per cent rise in interim profits to £1.7 million in the six months to September 30. Earnings were 4.21p a share, against 3.74p. The interim dividend is increased to 1.05p a share from 0.9p.

We've warned you twice. Now we're sending the boys round.



Eight months ago, OFTEL announced Britain's area codes will change on Phoneday, 16 April 1995.

16 APRIL 1995 PHONEDAY AREA CODES STARTING 0 WILL START 01

Immediately, we told our business customers. Next, we outlined what action needed to be taken, by when. However, we recognise there is more that needs to be done. Research has shown that many businesses have yet to make their plans. Although Phoneday is still around a year and a half away, there is some work that needs to be completed over the next 6 months. Like modifying call barring arrangements. Existing BT installations can readily be altered to cope with the new codes. In fact, many of the adjustments are so simple you can make them yourself. However, in some cases, work may need to be carried out by your equipment maintainer. That's where we come in. Quite literally. If your equipment is maintained by BT, and needs modification, you can expect a visit from our engineers over the next few months. You can call us on **Free*fone 0800* 010101.** Alternatively, wait for our boys, or girls, to call round. They'll soon sort you out.

BT

We go further, to bring you closer



هكذا من الأصل

Ford

Following the DIVIDEND DECLARATION by Ford Motor Company (U.S.) on 14 October 1993 NOTICE is now given that the following DISTRIBUTION will become payable on or after 15 December 1993.

Gross Distribution per unit	2-0000 Cents
Less 15% USA Withholding Tax	0-3000 Cents
	1-7000 Cents
Converted at $1-5125	£0.01123967

Claims should be lodged with the DEPOSITARY: National Westminster Bank PLC, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB on special forms obtainable from that office.

United Kingdom Banks and Members of the Stock Exchange should mark payment of the dividend in the appropriate square on the reverse of the certificate.

All other claimants must complete the special form and present this at the above address together with the certificate(s) for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

Dated 15 December 1993

☐ Commissions are sending the wrong signals ☐ Banking on destroying inflation ☐ At last, the world gets a Gatt deal

An industry in the doghouse

YOU CAN still read those "job" advertisements for the desperate unemployed. Opportunity: selling financial products, commission only, no experience required, high potential earnings. Or something not far removed from that. This has been the culture of the wilder parts of the life assurance and investment industry for generations and has spread further in recent years. It was not the culture at Noble Lowndes before or during the TSB's ill-conceived period of ownership. Nor among some others rapped expensively over the knuckles recently.

Yet the growing list of big, long-standing respectable firms, including Scottish Widows, North of England Building Society and MIM, that have been found wanting variously by Imro, by Lautro, the life assurance regulator, and by the SIB, has been particularly depressing. There has been a mismatch between sales incentives to "consultants", representatives and agents, and the controls exercised by management.

The Noble Lowndes case has been a particularly glaring one: effectively, a few consultants milked commission from hundreds of clients by switching them pointlessly from one packaged investment to another, some quite unsuited to their clients' needs. In some aspects, it has also been encouraging. Management called in the regulator when it finally discovered something had gone badly wrong, and had tightened things up even before the takeover by Sedgwick Group. The regulator, forced to come to life by its failures in the Maxwell affair, has imposed fines that hurt financially and in publicity. And there has been no bellyaching about recompensing those clients who were ill-served.

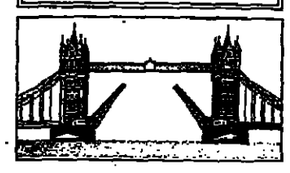
Remember, however, that this is the respectable end of the industry. Remember, also, that the attitudes exposed are those of some who will increasingly influence the main life savings of millions of people. The insurance-based packaged savings and investment business is falling into disrepute. More supervision, more reporting, more responsibility by product providers will help. But it will not resolve the underlying conflict. As generations have been taught, these products are generally sold, not bought. Without persuasive, persistent salesmen, millions would be financially under-provided. The bigger the incentive, the more will be sold. The greater the seller's dependence on incentives, the more likely it is that products will be mis-sold.

For the industry and its regulators, the challenge is to get the incentives right. Sellers should not have to sell to live, nor should they be able to become wildly rich by their efforts. Yet the commissions must be big enough to make their best efforts worthwhile. That is not something that can easily be determined by rules. But the bureaucrats must try, for the culture will not be changed by market forces alone.

George and the dragon

☐ NEARER TO independence the Bank of England may not be — in the statutory sense at least — but its influence is far greater under Eddie George than it was under his patrician predecessor. At the very least, the Bank has eschewed its customary opaqueness, a blushing bridesmaid dutifully holding the train of the

PENNINGTON



Chancellor of the day. Both Mr George and his deputy Rupert Pennant-Rea have delivered the same assault on corporate profit expectations within the last two months: saying that it is not the job of a central bank to influence private sector behaviour but wielding the threat of higher interest rates if companies do not conform to the Bank's sense of price rectitude.

Last week, Swiss Bank interpreted part of Mr George's testimony to the Treasury select committee as a sign of greater control over monetary policy. In fact, the Governor was simply outlining the provisions of Section 4 of the Bank of England Act of 1946.

But there are real reasons why the Bank's utterances are listened to these days. The Bank can openly disagree with the Treasury in its Inflation Report. But, more crucially, Eddie George has the undivided attention of a Chancellor far more interested in the political shape of his performance than its economic implications.

Both men seem to share the same attitude towards the balance between growth and inflation. In spite of private belief in Threadneedle Street and Whitehall that inflation is not a problem for the next two years, Eddie George believes he must grab what he sees as a once in a lifetime opportunity to change British inflation psychology. A period of low inflation is not enough: companies and wage bargainers have to be bludgeoned into believing it and changing their behaviour.

Mr George only reluctantly agreed to the half-point cut in base rates before the Budget when offered the sop of controlling the exact timing of rate changes.

The semblance of independence has given the Bank an important rhetorical clout in its effort to break inflationary psychology, but has probably also genuinely influenced the Chancellor to be cautious on interest rates.

Mr Clarke, for his part, seems happy to settle for maximum gains on inflation and slow growth — a combination that appears to suit his personal political agenda. However, if the economy dives, neither pragmatist is going to stand in the way of lower interest rates.

It's over, sings the fat lady

☐ GETTING the good ship Uruguay Round into harbour has proved a dispiriting experience, as has been inevitable for many weeks. To avoid the overloaded vessel finally sinking after its meandering seven-year voyage, items of baggage of increasing importance have had to be jettisoned. Steel, shipping, audio-visual and financial services have all, to a greater or lesser extent, been cast on the waters, left to be salvaged by future haggling that will doubtless prove equally long-winded and bad tempered. Farm produce and textiles will be subject to a high degree of protection, even between developed countries, for the foreseeable future. The authority of the Multilateral Trade Organisation, potentially the biggest plus, has been undermined before it is set up, with Europe angling to increase its unilateral retaliatory powers and the EU and US ganging up on the developing world and Eastern Europe over dumping. Most of the champagne will be drunk by the diplomats.

In the financial markets, success will boost confidence, but mainly in the negative sense that the awful shadow of failure is removed. Even that shadow was really a ghost dreamed up by the diplomats: there was no reason for failure to lead to a trade war.

For all that, there should be a significant further opening of trade, particularly in manufactured goods. The benefits are, however, at this stage mere opportunities. And as so often with de-regulation, the general gains will be widely and thinly spread, whereas the losses will be concentrated and painful. For trade bureaucrats, however, tying up the Uruguay Round will be a wonderful relief. Now they can go back to their normal business of stopping trade.

Southern Electric raises payout on profit surge

By Philip Pangalos

SOUTHERN Electric is raising its interim dividend by 19.6 per cent after a combination of staff cuts, improved results from subsidiaries and lower interest charges boosted first-half profits in the face of recession.

The pre-tax figure advanced to £89.2 million in the six months to September 30, against £15.3 million last time, but the figures are not strictly comparable because of changes in the timing of payments under new coal contracts. The company believes 1992's figure would have been about £77 million under the new procedure. On that basis, the estimated pre-tax rise would have been 15.8 per cent.

Earnings jump to 24.8p (3.78p) a share, and there is an increased interim dividend of 6.7p (5.6p) "in the light of the excellent results and cash flow", said Geoffrey Wilson, chairman.

Southern is the latest regional electricity company to provide generous rewards for shareholders, though the 19.6 per cent rise in the interim payout seems moderate compared with others, such as London Electricity's recent 32 per cent interim increase. Henry Casley, chief executive, suggested that Southern's dividend was likely to advance by a more modest 12 to 14 per cent over the full year, "reflecting the underlying improvement in profit".

Mr Casley insists that Southern has rewarded both shareholders and customers. "We have reduced prices and we have reduced disconnections," he said.

Southern has made price reductions for its 2.3 million domestic customers worth some £46 in a full year, including a rebate of £4 to each domestic and small business customer for the first quarter of 1994. This followed a 2.5 per cent tariff reduction in April and a further 1.25 per cent reduction in October for customers paying by direct debit.

TONY WHITE



Henry Casley said prices and disconnections had fallen

Southern, in common with other regional electricity companies, has been giving customers rebates to reflect the fall in fuel bills resulting from the latest supply contract with British Coal.

Turnover advanced to £765 million (£761 million). In spite of the recession gripping much of the region, electricity distributed rose by 0.9 per cent, with the domestic and commercial sectors showing increases of 3.5 per cent and 0.3 per cent respectively, though demand from industrial consumers fell by 1.6 per cent. Mr Casley regards the 0.9 per cent overall increase in electricity distributed as "encouraging and moving in the right direction".

Disconnections were reduced by 90 per cent, with this year's total estimated to reach 300, compared with a level nearer 6,250 in 1991.

"We have kept with the price formula set by the government at the time of privatisation," added John Deane, finance director.

Southern, which in June announced a reorganisation involving the loss of 1,000 jobs by 1996, said that its cost-cutting plans were proceeding apace: 150 jobs are expected to go in addition to those already announced. More than 200 staff left the main electricity business during the period. The reorganisation is designed to devolve more work to depots closer to customers and to streamline administrative services.

"With the major restructuring now under way, together with continued downward pressure on costs and emphasis on quality service, we are confident of an excellent result for the full year," Mr Wilson said.

Net interest charges fell to £5.3 million (£10.8 million), with gearing down to 0.3 per cent, against 21.5 per cent last time and 17 per cent at the last year end.

E & S Retail, the joint retailing and appliance servicing business with Eastern and Midland Electricity, improved financial results, in spite of the tough conditions, and opened four new superstores.

Southern shares added 7p to close at 679p.

Cheap beer imports fail to sink Vaux

ALL divisions at Vaux Group, from brewing to nursing homes, reported increased full-year profitability as Sir Paul Nicholson, chairman, renewed his call for reduced beer taxes to lessen the attraction of cheap imported beer (Martin Flanagan writes).

Sir Paul said trading had been tight, particularly in the off-trade. But this failed to stop the company driving up pre-tax profits 7.1 per cent to £26.6 million (£24.8 million) in the year to September 30.

Earnings per share rose 46 per cent to 16.57p (11.38p). A final dividend of 6.25p makes 9.5p 9.35p last time.

The shares were up 2p at 281p.

Tempus, page 25

N&P calls itself to account

By Sara McConnell, Personal Finance Correspondent

THE National & Provincial building society is planning to transfer more than £380 million held by 600,000 customers in accounts closed to new business and paying minimal interest into active accounts that pay better rates.

Anyone who does not choose a new account by the end of next March will have their funds transferred automatically. It seems that all N&P's previous attempts to encourage this hard core of savers to move from such accounts as the pre-war Whitehaven Old Series or the Selector Term Series, paying 0.37 per cent net on balances of £10,000, have failed.

The society has 40 accounts closed to new savers, including the Instant Access, paying 0.5 per cent gross on balances of £500 and 1 per cent on balances of £5,000. People with this account will be moved to the Instant Reserve Account, paying 3.8 per cent gross on balances of £500 and 4.25 per cent gross on balances of £5,000. Savers in the Continuation Bond, earning 1.2 per cent on £5,000, will move to the Private Reserve account, paying 4.5 per cent gross.

Those who choose their own account and opt for one with a higher rate because withdrawals are restricted could earn up to 7 per cent more.

Those transferred automatically who do not approve of N&P's choice on their behalf can change to another account without penalty or leave the society altogether.

N&P said no one would be worse off because of a transfer. The transfers will cost N&P about £5 million a year in extra interest payments. It has spent £15 million a year over the past two years in extra interest to the one million customers who have responded to mailings and advertising.

Two years ago, more than half its savers held obsolete accounts containing a total of more than £1 billion. By this time last year, it had cut that to 36 per cent of its savers and by this month to 25 per cent.

Building societies have been persistently attacked, not least by Stephen Edell, the sector's ombudsman, for their perceived failure to tell people that they could get a better rate in another account.

An estimated £20 billion is in obsolete accounts in building societies across Britain.

Nordic currency falls knock Intrum Justitia

By Sarah Bagnall

SHARES of Intrum Justitia, Europe's largest debt collector, tumbled 28p to 100p yesterday following a warning that 1993 profits would fail to match City expectations.

The company said profits after tax would not exceed the £10.5 million achieved last year because of the depreciation of Nordic currencies in the second half of the year.

Analysts had forecast post-tax profits of up to £13.1 million for the year to December 31. A spokesman for Intrum Justitia said: "We did not foresee the depreciation in the currencies. A third of our sales come from Sweden while the Nordic region as a whole makes up about two-thirds of our profits."

The company still intends to increase the final dividend, which was 3p last year.

Tempus, page 25

DTI to rule insurers in single market

By Our Insurance Correspondent

THE Department of Trade and Industry will be able to suspend UK insurers' authorisation, freeze assets and demand information without a court order, under proposals that enable it to regulate the insurance industry in a single market, which it is hoped will be in force by July.

The DTI is seeking comments by February on the proposals that will bring UK law into line with the EC Third Directives on insurance. Under the proposals, regulation moves to the home state, so the DTI will be responsible for supervision of UK companies' business in the EC.

The benefits of a single market are that UK insurers will have greater freedom to operate overseas and consumers will be offered a greater choice of products and be able to buy products from companies elsewhere in the EC.

Talks admission hits LWT price

By Carl Mortished

SHARES in LWT Holdings slumped by 20p yesterday when the market reacted initially to confirmation by Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television of an approach from the owners of the London Weekend Television franchise which might lead to an offer for Yorkshire.

The announcement was requested by the Takeover Panel following widespread rumours that LWT was planning an alliance with Anglia and Yorkshire to fight off Granada's £600 million bid for LWT. LWT's accountants are now believed to be conducting due diligence work on Yorkshire, but this is at a preliminiary stage and no decision has been made by either party. Anglia, which has been mooted as a candidate to acquire Tyne Tees in the LWT grand alliance, remained silent yesterday.

The slide in the LWT price, which later recovered to close 12p down at 588p, reflected concern over the possible cost of a bid for Yorkshire, which revealed on Monday that it expected to make losses of up to £9.5 million in the year to September. LWT may have to offer 200p for Yorkshire shares, currently 165p.

Takeover Panel rules need companies to match the value of share purchases made within the last year unless circumstances have changed.

Alex Bernstein, chairman of Granada, said the talks with Yorkshire meant LWT had accepted Granada's case that scale was essential if companies were to become competitive. LWT shareholders faced a choice between one of the strongest managed media and leisure companies, or joining "a Channel 3 licensee making significant losses and burdened with high licence payments."

For more than a century and a half, Patek Philippe has been known as the finest watch in the world. The reason is very simple. It is made differently. It is made using skills and techniques that others have lost or forgotten. It is made with attention to detail very few people would notice. It is made, we have to admit, with a total disregard for time. If a particular Patek Philippe movement requires four years of continuous work to bring to absolute perfection, we will take four years. The result will be a watch that is unlike any other. A watch that conveys quality from first glance and first touch. A watch with a distinction: generation after generation it has been worn, loved and collected by those who are very difficult to please; those who will only accept the best. For the day that you take delivery of your Patek Philippe, you will have acquired the best. Your watch will be a masterpiece, quietly reflecting your own values. A watch that was made to be treasured.



PATEK PHILIPPE
GENEVE

Exclusive Patek Philippe showroom: 15 New Bond Street, London · Asprey & Co Ltd, 165 New Bond Street, London
Garrard & Co Ltd, 112 Regent Street, London · George Pragnell Ltd, 5 Wood Street, Stratford-upon-Avon
Hettich Ltd, 1 King Street, Jersey, Channel Islands
Available from all showrooms of [redacted] throughout the United Kingdom

Shares of big retail chains feel the pre-Christmas chill

STOCK MARKET

EVIDENCE that spending in the shops is slowing in the run-up to Christmas hit the shares of the big retail chains and revived calls for another cut in interest rates.

The latest CBI survey showed signs of a slowdown in retail sales during November compared with September and October, with the rise in prices at their lowest since the survey began in 1983.

Falls were recorded in **Kingfisher**, 12p to 719p, **Boots**, 15½p to 534½p, **Laura Ashley**, 3p to 81p, **Marks and Spencer**, 2p to 444p, **WH Smith A**, 3p to 507p, and **Storehouse** 3p to 229p.

The Gatt agreement sparked an early assault by the rest of the equity market on the all-time trading high, but it ended in failure. A futures inspired mark-up saw the FT-SE 100 index climb 23 points in early trading.

But it failed to maintain the pace as worries about the nationalist success in the Russian elections and an early fall on Wall Street sent investors scurrying for cover before Friday's expiry of the December futures. The index closed 6.2 points down at 3,248.4, with 705 million shares traded.

Yield considerations continued to bolster the water companies in a thin market. **Southern** rose 12p to 660p after figures and there were also gains for **Anglian**, 7p to 586p, **Northumbrian**, 9p to 728p, **North West**, 12p to 586p, **Severn Trent**, 9p to 626p, **South West**, 11p to 655p and **Thames**, 8p to 580p.

A large seller left **General Accident** nursing a fall of 18p to 706p and also knocked **Royal**, 12p off at 311p.

Worries about the missed opportunity to write back provisions relating to its Taiwan deal left **British Aerospace** 14p off at 403p. But **Hepworth** jumped 17p to 425p, helped by a buy recommendation from Kleinwort Benson. **Trafalgar House** fell 10p to 77½p after realising the City's worst fears with the announcement of losses totalling £347.2 million. That compares with pre-tax losses the previous year of £11.2 million.

The figure was struck after exceptional charges of £397.3 million. The group has also revealed plans to raise £404 million via a convertible preference issue and placing.

Fisons was on the slide again, losing 4p at 109p in the wake of this week's profits warning and cut dividend. Turnover was again heavy, with a further 23 million shares changing hands.

BP responded to words of encouragement from NatWest Securities with a rise of 2½p to 326½p, after touching 330p. NatWest said the price already reflected the low oil price and urged clients to buy now. BP is due to give a presentation to analysts today.

Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television touched 168p before finishing 2p firmer at 165p. The group has confirmed it has received a bid approach from **London Weekend Television**, down 12p at 576p. LWT is fighting off an unwanted £600 million bid from **Granada**, up 6p at 501p.

Profit-taking left **Bakyrchik**, described as the only pure gold mine quoted on the stock market outside of South Africa, 20p lower at 385p.

The shares have enjoyed a phenomenal rise since they came to market via Williams de Broe, the stockbroker, in August at 120p.

Intrum Justitia, the debt collection agency, tumbled 28p to 100p after warning that profits for 1993 would be about the same level as last year.

James Dickie, which is quoted on the USM, touched 107p before settling at 90p, a rise on the day of 9p.

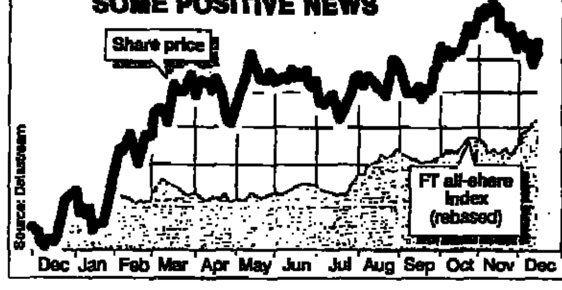
☐ **GILT-EDGED:** gilts saw early gains eroded by a weak German bund and the outcome of the elections in Russia.

The March series of the **long gilt** lost £⅛ to finish at £118⅝ on 40,000 contracts. In longs, **Treasury 9 per cent 2012** fell £5/16 to £125 13/32, while at the shorter end, **Treasury 9½ per cent 1999** firmed three ticks to £115 7/8.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street shares continued their pullback from Monday's blue chip rally and moved lower in early trading. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 15.09 points to 3,749.34.

MICHAEL CLARK

BP: BROKERS HOPING FOR SOME POSITIVE NEWS



MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND
US $ .... 1.4892 (-0.0026)
German mark .... 2.5519 (+0.0126)
Exchange index .... 81.7 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET
FT-SE 100 .... 3248.4 (-6.2)
Dow Jones .... 3749.34 (-15.09)*
Nikkei Avg .... 17308.73 (-18.60)

INTEREST RATES
London Bank Base 5½%
3-month Interbank .... 5⅝-5⁹⁄₁₆%
US Federal Funds .... 2¹⁵⁄₁₆%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.04-3.03%*
Long Bond 6.23%*

CURRENCIES

New York:	London:
£:$ ... 1.4885*	£:$ 1.4883
$:DM .. 1.7141*	£:DM 2.5502
$:SWfr. 1.4665*	£:SWfr 2.1818
$:Ffr ... 5.8610*	£:Ffr 8.7126
$:Yen .. 109.41*	£:Yen 162.82
£:SDR .. 1.0752	£:ECU 1.3203

London Forex market close

GOLD
London Fixing ($):
AM 387.60 .... PM 387.00
Close 386.90-387.30
New York
Comex 386.45-386.95*

OIL
Brent Crude .... $13.90 per bbl (Feb)

RETAIL PRICES
RPI..141.8 Oct (1.4%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Rolfe & Nolan	290p (+12p)
Courtaulds	474p (+12p)
Hepworth	425p (+17p)
Nu-Swift	348p (+10p)
Rank Org	936p (+10p)
Lloyds Chem	327p (+10p)
Eurotherm	661p (+12p)
First Tech	292p (+14p)
Christies Int	227p (+13p)

FALLS:

Grand Met	445p (-13p)
Morland	513p (-25p)
Jardine Math	596p (-28p)
Kingfisher	719p (-12p)
Liberty	535p (-10p)
Royal	311p (-12p)
General Accident	706p (-18p)
Whatman	470p (-10p)
Amber Ind	685p (-10p)
Whessoe	228p (-27p)

Closing Prices Page 27

Birse share issue to raise £24m

BIRSE Group, the building and construction company, is raising £24 million through a placing of 125 million new shares to reduce borrowings (Philip Pangalos writes).

The placing and open offer is on the basis of 1.89 new shares for each share held.

Peter Birse, chairman and chief executive, said the company's balance sheet had been damaged by the receivership of a major client, the falling value of property and housing land and the recession. "This has increasingly restricted Birse Construction's ability to tender selectively and maintain the full confidence of its customers."

The 46.4 per cent holding controlled by Mr Birse, his family and associated trusts will be diluted to 21.3 per cent. The shares added 4p to 27½p.

Water watchdog urged to soften pricing stance

By Carl Mortished

PRESSURE on Ofwat to soften its treatment of water companies in the current periodic review increased yesterday as William Courtney, Southern Water's chairman, criticised the watchdog's methodology for regulating prices and asked him to reconsider his proposals.

Martyn Webster, group managing director, said that Southern would appeal to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission if it felt that the outcome of the review was unfair to its shareholders.

Mr Webster said that he believed the underlying methodology used by Ian Byatt, director-general of Ofwat, to measure the cost of capital and capital values was flawed and inconsistent with the findings of the MMC relating to British Gas.

Southern will submit its market plan to Ofwat next month.

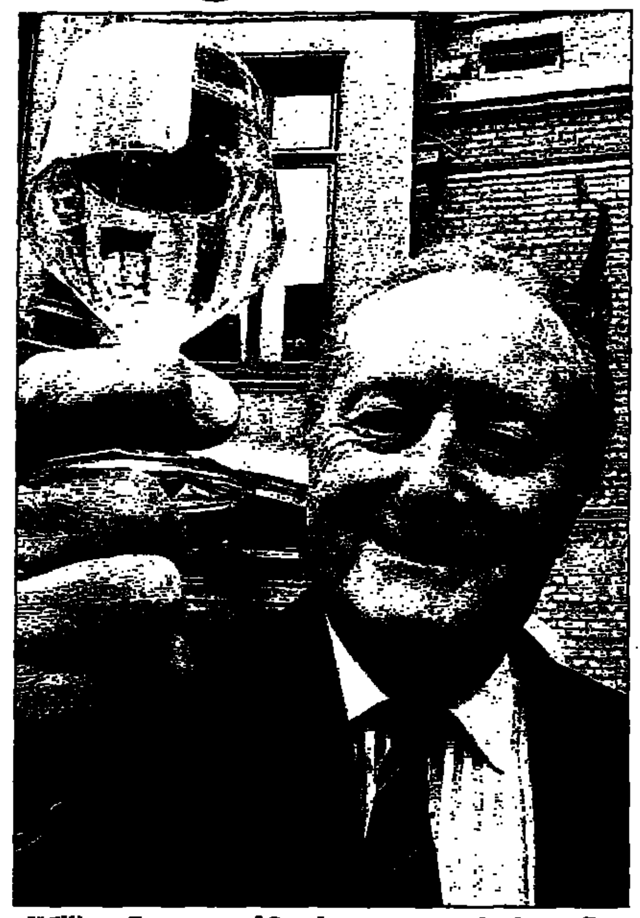
Last month, Welsh Water criticised Ofwat's proposed rate of return for water companies of 5-6 per cent as inadequate, saying that it failed to recognise the inherent risk in the water companies' massive and compulsory infrastructure programmes.

Southern is increasing its interim payout 8.5 per cent to 7.7p after a rise in pre-tax profits for the six months to September 30 from £60 million to £64.5 million.

The improvement includes a rise from £4.5 million to £4.9 million in the trading profits of the non-regulated businesses. These were expanded yesterday with the purchase for less than £1 million of a 75 per cent stake in GMSS, which owns the Greater Manchester Scientific Services laboratory.

Mr Webster said that Southern would continue efforts to expand the group's non-core businesses.

Tempus, page 25



William Courtney, of Southern, toasts a rise in profits

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

AMBERLEY GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £21,000
EPS: 0.22p (1.44p loss)
Div: Nil (nil)
Last time there was a loss of £79,000. Turnover rose to £2.14 million from £1.62 million. Further progress expected

AUKETT ASSOCIATES
Pre-tax: £2.25m loss
EPS: 16.82p loss
Div: Nil (nil)
Final results. Loss in previous year was £3.9 million and 20.77p a share. Borrowings cut to £2.6 million from £3.5 million

CHEMEX INTL (Fin)
Pre-tax: £12,961 loss
EPS: 0.03p loss
Div: Nil (nil)
Profit in previous year was £52,083, with earnings of 0.14p a share. Turnover was £1.33 million, up from £1.2 million

EWART (Int)
Pre-tax: £351,000
EPS: 1.86p (1.39p loss)
Div: 0.4p (nil)
There was a loss of £260,000 last time. Turnover rose to £3.3 million from £1.9 million. Progress will continue this year

FIRST TECHNOLOGY (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.76m
EPS: 7.36p (4.2p)
Div: 1p (nil)
Previous interim profit was £807,000. Turnover increased to £16.09 million from £11.4 million. Borrowings reduced

MELVILLE ST INVS (Int)
Pre-tax: £648,618
EPS: 2.77p (2.09p)
Div: 1.5p (1.5p)
Previous interim profit was £520,907. Net asset value increased to 154p a share from 140p six months earlier

SEET (Int)
Pre-tax: £23,000 loss
EPS: 1.15p loss
Div: Nil (nil)
Previous interim loss was £249,000, with a 7.68p loss per share. Turnover reduced to £2.69 million from £4.54 million

SHERIFF HLDGS (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.71m
EPS: 11.5p (6.7p)
Div: 2.5p, mkg 3.75p
Total dividend last time was 2p and profits were £886,000 before tax. Turnover rose to £11.97 million from £10.6 million

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust Lloyds Insce (100)	93	...
Abtrust Lloyds Wts	40	...
Amicable Smlr Ent (100)	101	...
Angerstein (100)	98	+1
Azlan (230)	260	+3
Badgerline (115)	109	...
Biotrace Intl (130)	150	-1
CLM Insce (100)	103	...
Celltech (250)	219	+1½
DFS Furniture (260)	297	+2
Fenchurch (180)	167	-6
Finsbury Undrwrtng Inv	107½	-½
For & Col Smaller (100)	100½	...
Gartmore (168)	186	...
Govett High Inc (100)	109	+2
HCG Lloyds Inv Tst (100)	101	...
Harmony Leisure Wts	4½	...
Hozelock (250)	249	...
Inspirations (100)	111	...
Johnson Fry Utilities (100)	109½	-1½
Johnson Fry Zero Pf (100)	104½	+½
Lilliput (135)	121	...
Litho Supplies (190)	210	...
Masthead Insce (100)	108	...
Millgate (40)	41	...
Morgan Gren Eqty C (100)	103½	+½
NM Smllr Aust (100)	100	...
NM Smllr Wts	45	...
New London Capital (100)	97	...
On Demand Info (78)	109	-1
Pilot Inv C (100)	100	...
Premium Trust	94	...
Premium Underwriting	116	+4
Royal Doulton	224	+1
Ruberoid (150)	164	+1
Syndicate Capital (100)	96	...
Syndicate Capital Wts	36	-1
Telspec (160)	200	+7
Ugland Intl	103	...
Wigmore Property Inv (100)	99	+1
Wigmore Property Wts	43	+1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Banner Homes n/p (89)	28	-5
Greycoat n/p (124)	3	-½
NFC n/p (195)	27	+4
Serif n/p (11)	7½	...
Tay Homes n/p (145)	20	...
Wyevale Garden n/p (152)	19	...

WALL STREET

	Dec 14 midday	Dec 13 close
AMP Inc	60¾	60¾
AMR Corp	67¾	68⅝
Abbott Labs	28⅝	28⅝
Aetna Life	60⅝	60⅝
Ahmanson (HF)	19⅝	19⅝
Air Prod & Chem	45⅝	45⅝
Alberson's	25⅞	26
Alcan Alumnm	21½	22⅜
Alco Standard	52⅝	52⅝
Allied Signal	76⅛	74⅝
Alum Co of Am	72⅝	73⅝
Amax Gold Inc	7¼	7¼
Amerada Hess	44⅝	44¼
Amer Brands	33⅝	33⅝
Amer Cyanamid	51½	51½
Amer El Power	36¼	36⅝
Amer Express	31¼	31⅝
Amer Genl Corp	27⅝	27¼
Amer Home Pr	63¼	62¾
Amer Intl	88⅝	88¼
Amer Stores	43	42⅜
Amer T & T	54⅜	54¼
Ameritech	76⅛	77¼
Amoco	52⅝	52¼
Anheuser-Busch	49	50⅜
Apple Computer	29¼	29⅝
Archer Daniels	22	22⅛
Arkla	7⅝	7⅝
Armco	6	6¼
Armstrng Wrld	46¼	46⅝
Asarco	22⅛	22⅝
Ashland Oil	32⅝	32⅝
Atl Richfield	104⅝	104¼
Auto Data Pro	55⅝	55⅝
Avery Dennison	29¼	29⅝
Avon Products	48⅝	49¼
Baker Hughes	19⅝	19⅝
Baltim Gas & El	25⅝	25⅝
Banc One	37⅝	37⅝
BankAmerica	45	45
Bank of NY	55½	55⅝
Bankers Tr NY	78⅝	78½
Barnett Banks	40¼	40⅜
Bausch & Lomb	52	52⅝
Baxter Intl	23⅝	22⅝
Bectn Dickinsn	35⅝	35¼
Bell Atlantic	61	61
BellSouth	57⅝	58
Black & Decker	20¼	20⅜
Block (H&R)	41½	41¼
Boeing	40⅝	41
Boise Cascade	23⅝	23⅝
Borden Inc	18⅜	18⅝
Bristol Myrs Sq	58⅝	58⅜
Browning Ferris	26⅝	26⅝
Burlington Nthn	57	56½
CBS	299	298
CNA Financial	76½	78
CPC Intl	46⅝	46¼
CSX	86⅝	85⅝
Campbell Soup	42⅝	42¼
Can Pacific	16½	16¼
Cptl Cities ABC	630	633
Cptl Holdings	37⅝	37⅝
Carolina Pwr	29⅝	29
Caterpillar	85⅝	85½
Central & SW	30	30
Champion Intl	32	32⅝
Chase Manhat	32⅝	32⅝
Chemical Bk	38⅝	39⅜
Chevron Corp	85⅝	86½
Chrysler	55⅜	56⅜
Chubb Corp	78⅝	79⅝
Cigna Corp	62⅝	62⅝
Citicorp	35	35
Clorox	53	52⅝
Coastal Corp	27⅝	27⅝
Coca Cola	43⅜	43¼
Colgate-Palmolive	60	60¼
Columbia Gas	24	23⅝
Commonw Ed	28⅜	28⅝
Compaq Comp	72⅛	72⅝
Comp Ast Int	40⅝	41½
Conagra	25⅝	25⅝
Cons Edison	31½	31¼
Cons Nat Gas	43⅝	44½
Cons Rail	64	63¼
Cooper Inds	49⅝	49⅝
Corning Inc	28⅝	28⅝
Crown Cork	39⅝	40⅜
Dana Corp	55⅝	55⅝
Dayton Hudson	68⅝	68⅝
Deere	70	69⅝
Delta Air Lines	58⅝	58⅜
Deluxe Corp	35⅝	35⅝
Detroit Edison	31	31¼
Digital Equip	35⅝	35⅝
Dillard Dept St	38	38⅝
Disney (Walt)	42⅛	42⅝
Dominion Res	45	45
Donelley (RR)	29⅝	30¼
Dover Corp	61¼	61½
Dow Chemical	59⅝	59
Dow Jones	37⅝	37⅝
Dresser	20⅝	20¼
Duke Power	41½	41¼
Dun & Bradstreet	62⅝	62⅝
Du Pont	48⅝	48⅝
Eastman Kodak	63⅝	64
Eaton Corp	51½	51½
Emerson Elec	58¼	59¼
Engelhard Corp	24⅛	24⅝
Enron Corp	28¼	28¼
Entergy Corp	35½	35½
Ethyl Corp	18⅜	18½
Exxon	63¼	62¾
FMC Corp	45⅝	45⅝
FPL Group	38⅝	38¼
Federal Express	71½	70
Fed Nat Mtge	77½	79¼
First Chicago	41¼	41½
First Interstate	62¾	62¼
First Union Rlty	10⅝	10¼
Fleet Finl Grp	31½	31¼
Fluor Corp	40⅝	42
Ford Motor	63⅝	64¼
GTE Corp	35⅝	35⅝
Gannett	55⅝	56⅝
Gap Inc Del	41½	42
Gen Dynamics	92⅝	93
Gen Electric	101¼	101
Gen Mills	61½	60¼
Gen Motors	55⅝	56½
Gen Reinsurance	109⅝	110¼
Gen Signal	34¼	35⅝
Genuine Parts	36	35⅝
Georgia Pac	71¼	71½
Gillette	59⅝	60¼
Glaxo ADR	20⅛	20⅛
Goodrich (BF)	41¼	41¼
Goodyear Tire	46¼	47
Grace (W&R)	39⅝	40⅝
Grt Atl Pac Tea	28⅜	28¼
Great Wstn Fin	19⅝	19¼
Halliburton	30¼	30
Harcourt General	37⅝	36⅝
Heinz (HJ)	36⅛	36½
Hercules	110⅝	110⅝
Hershey Foods	49⅝	49⅝
Hewlett Packard	76½	75⅝
Hilton Hotels	54	53½
Home Depot	41	41½
Homestake Mng	22⅝	22⅝
Honeywell	33½	34
Household Intl	33	33½
Houston Inds	45⅝	46
Humana	18⅝	18⅝
ITT Corp	93⅝	93½
Illinois Tool	37⅝	36¼
INCO	27	27⅝
Ingersoll Rand	37⅝	36⅛
Inland Steel	34	34¼
Intel Corp	57	57½
IBM	56½	57⅜
Intl Flav & Fr	110⅝	111
Intl Paper	67⅝	68
James River Va	18⅜	18½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	42¼	43½
K Mart	22⅛	22⅝
Kellogg	60⅜	59⅝
Kerr-McGee	44⅝	44
Kimberly-Clark	50⅜	51¼
Knight-Ridder	58⅝	59⅝
Lilly (Eli)	57⅝	57½
Limited Inc	17¼	18
LIN Brdcstng	112⅜	112
Lincoln Nat	43	43
Litton	65⅜	65⅝
Liz Claiborne	21¼	21¼
Lockheed Corp	68⅝	69¼
Louisiana Pac	37⅝	37⅝
MCI Commun	25½	25⅜
Marriott Int	28⅝	28⅝
Marsh & McLnn	77½	78⅝
Masco Corp	36	36¼
May Dept St	41½	42
Maytag Corp	17	17¼
McCaw Cellular	51½	51½
McDonalds	57⅜	57⅝
McDonnell D	109⅝	110⅝
McGraw Hill	66½	66⅛
Mead Corp	44	43⅝
Medtronic	79¼	81½
Mellon Bk	52⅝	53¼
Melville Corp	39⅝	39¼
Merck Inc	32⅝	32⅝
Merrill Lynch	47	47⅝
Minnesota Mine	109⅝	110⅝
Mobil Corp	76½	76¼
Monsanto	72⅝	73
Morgan (JP)	70¼	71½
Motorola Inc	89⅛	89⅝
Natl Medical	13⅝	13⅝
Natl Semi	15	15⅝
Natl Service Ind	24⅝	24½
Navistar Int	23⅝	23½
NBD Bancorp	30⅝	30
NY Times A	26⅝	26½
Newmont Mng	56⅜	57⅝
Niag Mohawk	20	20⅜
Nike B	45	45⅝
NL Industries	5½	5½
Nordstrom	33	33
Norfolk Sthrn	71¼	70⅜
Nthn State Pwr	43	43
Norwest Corp	23½	23⅝
Nynex Corp	42⅝	42¼
Occidental Pet	17⅝	17⅝
Ohio Edison	21¼	21½
Oracle Systems	33⅜	36
Oryx Energy Co	17⅝	18⅝
Owens Corning	47⅝	47⅝
PNC Financial	29⅝	29⅝
PPG Industries	72⅜	73¼
Paccar Inc	62⅝	63¼
Pacificorp	19¼	19¼
Pac Enterprises	24⅜	24⅝
Pac Gas & Elect	33⅝	34
Pac Telesis	56½	57
Pall Corp	19⅝	19⅝
Panhandle East	22⅝	22⅝
Paramnt Comm	80⅜	80⅝
Parker Hannifin	37⅝	37⅝
Penney (JC)	53¼	53⅝
Pennzoil	55	55⅝
Pepsico	40⅝	41½
Pfizer	65⅝	66
Phelps Dodge	49⅝	49¼
Philadel Elec	28⅝	28¼
Philip Morris	55⅜	55⅛
Phillips Pet	27⅛	27½
Pitney Bowes	41½	41½
Polaroid	35⅝	35⅛
PriceCostco	19⅝	19⅝
Primerica	40⅝	41½
Procter & Gmbl	56½	57
Pub Serv E & G	31½	31½
Quaker Oats	73⅜	73⅝
Ralston Purina	37⅝	37⅝
Raychem Corp	37⅝	37⅝
Raytheon	63⅝	64⅛
Reebok Intl	29⅝	28¼
Reynolds Metals	47½	48¼
Roadway Srvcs	61½	62
Rockwell Intl	36⅝	36½
Rohm & Haas	56½	56
Royal Dutch	101½	103¼
Rubbermaid	33⅝	33¼
Safeco Corp	56	56½
St Paul's Cos	90⅝	90⅝
Salomon Inc	46⅝	46½
Santa Fe Pac	22	22
Sara Lee Corp	27¼	27¼
Scecorp	20⅜	20¼
Schering Plough	64½	65
Schlumberger	58⅜	58⅝
Scott Paper	39¼	39⅝
Seagram	26⅛	26½
Sears Roebuck	55⅜	55⅝
Shell Trans	61½	62
Sherwin Wlms	33	33½
Skyline Corp	17⅝	17½
Snap-On-Tools	37⅝	37⅝
Southern Co	42⅝	43⅝
Sthwestern Bell	42	42⅝
Sprint Corp	31¼	32½
Stanley Works	40⅜	40⅝
Sun Company	30⅜	30⅝
Suntrust	44⅛	44⅝
Supervalu	32¼	33½
Syntex Corp	16⅝	16½
Sysco Corp	30⅜	29¼
TRW Inc	66⅝	67¼
Tandem Comp	11½	11¼
Tandy Corp	44⅝	45½
Telecom Corp	3½	3½
Teledyne	25⅜	25⅝
Temple Inland	49⅝	49⅝
Tenneco	49⅝	49⅝
Texaco	63¼	63⅛
Texas Instr	60⅛	60
Texas Utilities	42⅝	42⅝
Textron	56½	55⅝
Time Warner	44	44½
Times-Mirror	34	34½
Timken	32⅝	32⅛
Torchmark	43⅝	43⅝
Toys R Us	38⅝	40
Transamerica	57⅝	57½
Travelers Corp	32⅝	32⅛
Tribune	57⅛	57⅝
Tyco Labs	47½	47⅝
UAL Corp	148½	149⅝
UST Inc	26⅝	26⅝
USX Marathon	17⅝	17½
Unilever NV	113	114¼
Union Camp	47⅝	48
Union Carbide	22⅝	22⅝
Union Pacific	61¼	61½
Unisys Corp	11⅝	11½
USAir Group	13⅝	13½
USF&G Corp	12⅝	12⅜
US Life	37⅝	37⅝
US West	46⅝	47½
United Tech	61½	62
Unocal Corp	27	26⅝
Upjohn	30⅝	29⅝
VF Corp	45⅝	44⅝
WMX Tech	27½	27¼
Wal-Mart Stores	26¼	27½
Warner-Lambert	64¼	64½
Wells Fargo	122	123½
Westinghouse El	13⅝	14
Weyerhaeuser	43¼	44¼
Whirlpool	60	61½
Whitman	16¼	16¼
Winn Dixie	54	54¼
Woolworth	23⅝	23⅜
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	43⅝	43⅝
Xerox	87⅝	88⅝

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	14,000	Cadbury	1,600	MEPC	1,200	Scot Power	1,200
Abbey Natl	2,000	Caradon	2,000	Marks Spr	5,800	Sears	2,200
Alld-Lyons	1,300	Carlton Cms	1,100	NFC	3,000	Svrn Trent	1,500
Anglian W	669	Coats Vly	1,800	NatWst Bk	2,500	Shell Trans	2,600
Argyll Gp	3,500	Cm Union	1,700	Nat Power	4,800	Siebe	1,500
Arjo Wiggn	836	Courtaulds	1,000	Nth Wst W	1,200	SmKl Bch	3,600
AB Foods	440	Enterpr Oil	825	Nthrn Fds	3,500	Smith Nph	1,600
BAA	985	Forte	1,900	P & O	1,000	Southern Elec	888
BAT Inds	1,800	GRE	933	Pearson	1,000	Std Chartd	579
BOC	1,100	GUS	1,900	PowerGen	1,800	Sun Allnce	2,100
BP	12,000	Gen Acc	1,700	Prudential	5,700	TI Gp	364
BT	7,700	Gen Elec	3,700	RMC	745	TSB	2,700
BTR	12,000	Glaxo	6,900	RTZ	4,200	Tesco	4,600
Bk of Scot	2,900	Granada	3,100	Rank Org	582	Thames W	3,800
Barclays	1,800	Grand Met	7,500	Reckitt Col	400	Thrn EMI	869
Bass	2,100	Guinness	3,100	Redland	1,400	Tomkins	2,200
Blue Circle	2,400	HSBC	1,000	Reed Intl	2,200	Unilever	870
Boots	3,100	Hanson	9,000	Rentokil	1,900	Utd Bisc	574
Bowater	1,700	ICI	1,600	Reuters	468	Vodafone	1,200
Brit Aero	2,800	Inchcape	1,600	Rolls Royce	3,600	Warburg (SG)	744
Brit Airwys	1,500	Kingfisher	1,000	Ryl Ins	2,100	Wellcome	5,600
Brit Gas	2,700	Ladbroke	3,500	Ryl Bk Scot	764	Whitbd 'A'	2,600
Brit Steel	6,000	Land Secs	1,000	Sainsbury	5,400	Wllms Hld	337
Burmah Cast	761	Legal & Gn	1,700	Schroders	68	Wolseley	812
Cable Wire	2,300	Lloyds Bk	3,800	Scot & New	1,200	Zeneca	1,000

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3749.34 (-15.09)
S&P Composite .... 463.77 (-1.93)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 17308.73 (-18.60)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 10021.48 (-227.11)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 139.3 (-0.6)

Sydney: AO .... 2086.60 (-7.90)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2149.97 (-22.78)

FT 30 share: .... 2447.5 (-5.9)

Brussels:
General .... 7332.10 (+11.89)

Paris: CAC-40 .... 2156.50 (-39.81)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 662.00 (-1.80)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1599.89 (-1.44)
FT 500 .... 1701.04 (-0.53)
FT Gold Mines .... 255.2 (-2.4)
FT Fixed Interest .... 130.24 (+0.26)
FT Govt Secs .... 106.82 (+0.14)
Bargains 29456
SEAQ Volume 705.4m
USM (Datastrm) .... 150.66 (-0.45)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
December 6	December 17	March 10	March 21

Call options were taken out on 14/12/93: Alvis, Anglo Pacific Res, Bakyrchik, Clyde Petroleum, Ferromet, Flexitech, Greycoat, Hardy Oil & Gas, JF Fledgeling Japan, Minmet, Rodime, Signet, Simon Engineering, Trafalgar House.
Puts: JF Fledgeling Japan, Navan Res. **Put & Call:** Bluebird Toys.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Dec 93	3272.0	3285.0	3242.0	3249.0	17985
Previous open interest: 80393	Mar 94	3298.0	3305.0	3263.5	3270.0	7924
Three Month Sterling	Dec 93	94.63	94.65	94.63	94.64	5330
Previous open interest: 426751	Mar 94	94.99	95.00	94.93	94.94	15824
	Jun 94	95.20	95.21	95.13	95.13	6070
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 94	96.44	96.44	96.44	96.46	192
Previous open interest: 8382	Jun 94	96.11	96.12	96.11	96.12	103
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 94	94.53	94.55	94.50	94.51	45517
Previous open interest: 645499	Jun 94	95.09	95.11	95.02	95.03	20894
Long Gilt	Dec 93	119-25	120-00	119-13	119-13	1044
Previous open interest: 144947	Mar 94	118-30	119-08	118-12	118-20	47594
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 94	116.71	116.71	116.50	116.51	1746
	Jun 94				115.62	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 94	100.88	101.05	100.26	100.32	147236
Previous open interest: 156053	Jun 94	100.91	100.91	100.57	100.26	115
German Gov Bd Bobl	Mar 94	103.53	103.60	103.05	103.25	2129
Previous open interest: 10430	Jun 94					0
Three month ECU	Mar 94	94.26	94.27	94.21	94.21	1341
Previous open interest: 25899	Jun 94	94.77	94.78	94.72	94.72	261
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 94	96.33	96.33	96.29	96.32	4787
Previous open interest: 52887	Jun 94	96.54	96.55	96.51	96.55	603
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 94	116.57	116.89	116.00	116.17	30564
Previous open interest: 76168	Jun 94	116.01	116.01	116.01	116.10	1

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 81.7 (day's range 81.6-81.7).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 14	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8381-2.8603	2.8501-2.8532	par-⅛ds	⅛-⅜ds
Brussels	53.13-53.44	53.13-53.31	9-12ds	22-28ds
Copenhagen	9.9461-10.0006	9.9615-9.9870	1½-2¾ds	4¼-5¼ds
Dublin	1.0505-1.0580	1.0519-1.0535	6-10ds	19-26ds
Frankfurt	2.5398-2.5541	2.5488-2.5515	⅛-¼ds	⅜-⅝ds
Lisbon	258.62-261.17	258.82-259.84	90-167ds	329-430ds
Madrid	207.49-208.81	207.49-208.03	65-73ds	176-202ds
Milan	2509.34-2520.06	2509.34-2513.50	6-8ds	19-21ds
Montreal	1.9770-1.9880	1.9841-1.9880	0.26-0.18pr	0.49-0.37pr
New York	1.4877-1.4903	1.4879-1.4886	0.33-0.32pr	0.75-0.73pr
Oslo	11.0067-11.0901	11.0417-11.0677	par-½ds	⅛-⅜ds
Paris	8.6866-8.7187	8.7064-8.7187	⅞-1¼ds	2½-2⅞ds
Stockholm	12.5112-12.5919	12.5326-12.5697	1⅞-3ds	4⅞-6¼ds
Tokyo	162.29-162.94	162.70-162.93	½-⅜pr	1⅝-1¼pr
Vienna	17.8737-17.9590	17.8875-17.9108	¼-⅜ds	1-2⅞ds
Zurich	2.1802-2.1872	2.1805-2.1830	¼-⅛pr	¾-½pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4850-1.4876
Australia dollar	2.2096-2.2120
Bahrain dinar	0.556-0.568
Brazil cruzeiro*	396.25-397.72
Cyprus pound	0.76-0.77
Finland marka	8.5145-8.6305
Greece drachma	361.25-368.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.4889-11.4935
India rupee	46.32-47.28
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4405-0.4505
Malaysia ringgit	3.7904-3.7932
Mexico peso	4.6-4.7
New Zealand dollar	2.6748-2.6799
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5295-5.6555
Singapore dollar	2.3700-2.3723
S Africa rand (fin)	6.6576-6.7367
S Africa rand (com)	5.0319-5.0398
U A E dirham	5.413-5.537

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4854-1.4865
Austria	12.0605-12.0655
Belgium (Com)	35.81-35.83
Canada	1.3304-1.3309
Denmark	6.7143-6.7243
France	5.8575-5.8625
Germany	1.7150-1.7160
Hong Kong	7.7236-7.7241
Ireland	1.4111-1.4121
Italy	1689.0-1690.0
Japan	109.30-109.37
Malaysia	2.5482-2.5492
Netherlands	1.9203-1.9208
Norway	7.4477-7.4497
Portugal	174.90-175.00
Singapore	1.5933-1.5943
Spain	139.75-139.85
Sweden	8.4455-8.4555
Switzerland	1.4655-1.4665

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 14 Low 6 Week fixed: 5½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅛; 3 mth 5. Sell: 2 mth 5; 3 mth: 4⁷⁄₈.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5-4⅞	
Sterling Money Rates: Interbank:	5⅝-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅝-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5¼-5
	5⅛-5⅛	5½-5⅛	5⅝-5⅝	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5

Overnight: open 6, close 14.

Local Authority Deps:	5½	n/a	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛
Sterling CDs:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5	5⅛-4⅞
Dollar CDs:	3.23	n/a	3.27	3.39	3.67
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Nov 30, 1993 Agreed rates Dec 26, 1993 to Jan 25, 1994 Scheme III: 6.90 %. Reference rate Oct 30, 1993 to Nov 30, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 5.618 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	2⅞-2⅞	3⅛-3⅛	3⅜-3⅛	3⅜-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6	5⅞-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞
French Franc:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-6⅛
Swiss Franc:	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	3⅞-3⅞	4⅛-3⅛
Yen:	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2	1⅞-1⅞	2⅛-1⅛

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $387.20-387.70 Close: $386.90-387.30 High: $387.30-387.80 Low: $385.20-385.70 Krugerrand: $385.00-389.00 (£258.25-260.25)
Sovereigns: Old $89.00-92.00 (£59.00-61.00) New $89.00-92.00 (£59.00-61.00)
Platinum: $387.00 (£259.90) Silver: $5.11 (£3.415) Palladium: $126.25 (£84.80)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Alld Lyon	600	30½	47½	55	11½	21	33
(*617½)	650	6½	23	30	38½	47½	61
Argyll	260	14½	23	27½	11	15½	22
(*261½)	280	6	14	16½	24	27½	35
ASDA	50	6	7½	10½	2½	5	6
(*57)	60	2	4	6	5½	11½	12
Boots	500	42	54	62½	6	11½	19½
(*534½)	550	11½	25	34	24½	33	44
Br Airways	420	28½	40½	49	11	19½	27½
(*435½)	460	9½	21	30	32½	39½	49
BP	300	32½	39	42½	3	6	12
(*328)	330	12½	19½	25½	12	19	24
Br Steel	130	8	13	17	6	11	13½
(*131)	140	4	6½	13½	13	16½	19½
C & W	475	25	39½	51	12½	21½	29½
(*495)	500	13½	26½	37½	26	34	42½
CU	600	47½	55½	67	4½	15½	21
(*640½)	650	14	25½	38½	23½	38½	44½
ICI	681	67½	—	—	4½	—	—
(*740)	750	19½	32½	44	24	52	58½
Kingfisher	700	34	52	62	13½	25½	36
(*716½)	750	11	27½	35	43	52½	65
Land Sec	750	52	67	75½	4½	12	21½
(*790½)	800	17½	35½	45	22½	30½	44
M & S	420	30½	41	45½	5½	11	16
(*444)	460	7½	19	24½	23½	29½	35½
Nat West	550	50	58	67½	4½	16½	23½
(*591½)	600	17½	29½	40½	22½	41	47½
Sainsbury	420	21	34½	38	11½	19½	28
(*428½)	460	4	17	24½	36½	41½	51½
Shell	650	48	54	62½	4	15	21
(*689)	700	14	24	35	22½	39½	46½
SmKl Bch	360	29	40	49	9	17½	24½
(*376½)	390	13½	26	34½	23½	33½	40
Storehse	220	13	21	25½	5½	10½	14
(*229)	240	3	11½	16	17½	22	25½
Trafalgar	70	10½	13	14½	3	5½	5½
(*77½)	80	3½	8	10½	5	11½	12½
Unilever	1150	42	64½	82½	18½	42½	54
(*1166½)	1200	17½	38½	57½	47	69½	79
Zeneca	750	45½	59	72½	12	32	44½
(*779½)	800	17½	32	48	35½	60	71
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Grnd Met	420	31½	39	48	12½	19	22½
(*445)	460	11½	19	28	34	39	44
Ladbroke	140	23	26	29	6	11	14½
(*154½)	160	11½	15½	19	15	22½	26
Utd Bisc	330	27½	31½	36	9	17	22
(*344)	360	12	19½	22½	25½	35½	41

Series		Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
BAA	950	58	82	97½	9	21½	32
(*992½)	1000	27	52½	69	28½	42½	54
Thames W	550	39	51	60½	6	14½	26½
(*579½)	600	10½	23½	33	28	34½	53
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
BAT Ind	500	33	39½	45½	14½	27	34
(*513½)	550	9½	17	23	44	58½	65
BTR	330	19	23½	29½	11	19½	23
(*334½)	360	6	11	16½	30½	39	41
Br Aero	390	35	46½	59	21	32	40
(*402½)	420	21	33½	44½	37	48½	56
Br Telcm	460	20½	29½	37	13	16½	24½
(*464)	500	5	12	19	39½	41½	48
Cadbury	453	44½	48½	—	4½	13	—
(*467½)	493	19½	23½	—	19	31½	—
Guinness	460	24	32	39	18	27½	34
(*462½)	500	8	15½	22½	43	53½	59
GEC	300	22	28½	33	6	9	15
(*313)	330	6	13	17	22½	25½	31½
Hanson	260	13	16½	20	7½	12½	16½
(*263)	280	4½	8	12	20	24½	28½
LASMO	100	17½	21½	24	7	12½	14½
(*107)	110	11½	15½	19½	12	16½	19½
Lucas	180	21½	27	31	5	9	12
(*195½)	200	11	14	20½	13½	18½	22
Pilkingtn	160	14	18	23	7½	11	16½
(*164)	180	5½	11	15	21½	23	27
Prudential	330	26½	30½	35	6½	13½	16½
(*346½)	360	9½	14½	20½	21	30½	33
Redland	550	45	52½	60½	14½	29	34½
(*576½)	600	19	27	36½	37	50½	62
Royal Ins	288	31½	—	—	5½	—	—
(*311)	317	14	—	—	18½	—	—
Tesco	200	14½	—	22½	8	15½	17
(*204½)	220	5½	11	14½	19½	28	29½
Vodafone	550	50	65½	79	22	33	45
(*571)	600	29½	42	55	49½	60	70½
Williams	330	28½	33½	37½	6½	14	17½
(*348)	360	11½	17½	23	21	30½	34

FT-SE INDEX (*3245½)

	3100	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350
Calls						
Dec	151	101	54	17	2	1
Jan	173	130	94	62	38	21
Feb	193	154	116	86	62	41
Mar	207	170	135	105	79	57
Jun	243	—	177	—	122	—
Puts						
Dec	1	1½	4	17	56	106
Jan	15	23	36	55	84	122
Feb	27	38	51	73	99	132
Mar	41	52	68	88	114	144
Jun	70	—	103	—	147	—

Series		Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Puts Dec	Puts Mar	Puts Jun
Abby Nat	460	8½	25	31	8	24	29
(*462)	500	1	9	15½	41	51½	54½
Amstrad	40	2½	5½	7	2	4½	5½
(*40½)	45	1	3½	5	5½	7½	8½
Barclays	600	16½	35½	46	6	26½	32½
(*610)	650	1½	16	24½	43½	57½	62
Blue Circ	330	10½	25	31½	5	17	26
(*334½)	360	1½	12	18	26	35	44
Br Gas	330	21½	31	35½	2½	7	13
(*349½)	360	3	13½	18	13	20½	28½
Dixons	280	9	22½	30	4½	17½	23
(*284)	300	2	14	21	18½	29	34½
Forte	240	10½	22	25½	2½	12	17½
(*247½)	260	1½	13	16	15	23	29½
Hillsdwn	140	14	20½	22	1	5½	11
(*152)	160	1½	9	10½	10½	15½	23
Lonrho	130	6½	14	18½	2½	10	13
(*130)	140	2	9½	14	8	15½	16½
Sears	120	7½	13	15	1	4½	7
(*126)	130	1½	7	9½	5½	9½	12½
Thrn EMI	950	41½	63	84	2½	26½	36½
(*984½)	1000	7	36½	57	22	52	61
Tomkins	220	14	21	25½	1½	8	11½
(*232)	240	2	11½	15	11½	18½	22
TSB	240	10½	18½	24½	2	11½	15
(*246)	260	1½	9	15	14½	25½	25½
Wellcome	600	38½	67	90	3	23½	37
(*633½)	650	8	39½	54	23½	47½	63
Series		**Dec**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Dec**	**Apr**	**Jul**
Glaxo	650	44	74½	92	2½	32	44½
(*689½)	700	9½	49½	67½	20½	56½	69
HSBC	800	25½	63½	75	7½	44	57
(*817½)	850	4	39	52	38½	73	94½
Reuter	1750	27	101	133½	22	87½	110½
(*1752½)	1800	7½	79½	113	54	115	135½
Series		**Dec**	**Feb**	**May**	**Dec**	**Feb**	**May**
R-Royce	156	10½	16½	—	1½	7	—
(*164)	176	1	7½	—	13½	18	—
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Fisons	100	12	20½	26	1½	11	15½
(*109)	110	5½	15	22	5	16	21½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Eastern Elc	650	25½	38½	48½	25½	30	45
(*657½)	700	7½	19½	27½	58	62½	75½
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Natl Pwr	420	19	32	38½	4	11½	19½
(*435)	460	2½	12½	20½	27	33½	40
Scot Pwr	420	17	27½	36½	2	13	17½
(*434)	460	1	9½	18	28	36½	40

December 14, 1993 Tot: 35990 Call: 22146 Put: 13744 FT-SE Call: 9970 Put: 6384
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

COMMODITIES REPORT: Coffee and cocoa ended a weaker day still in the minus column although coffee had managed to trim losses marginally by the close. Cocoa was seen as perhaps being slightly vulnerable at the moment and some traders were predicting a move back towards 1,000 stg basis near March. However, trading was very light so overall the bull trend remained intact.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	967-956	Mar	1007-1006
Mar	1026-1025	May	1011-1010
May	1027-1026	Jul	1016-1013
Jul	1026-1025	Sep	1022-1016
Sep	1027-1026		
Dec	1009-1008		Volume: 3977

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1264-1263	Sep	1245-1242
Mar	1268-1267	Nov	1245-1235
May	1253-1252	Jan	1245-1235
Jul	1245-1244		Volume: 3859

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Oct	11.12-11.30
Spot: 274.20		Jan	unq
Mar	10.97-11.04	Mar	unq
May	11.18-11.26	May	unq
Jul	11.34-11.48		Volume: 88

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	280.0-79.3
Spot: 289.0		Dec	280.0-77.3
Mar	285.8-85.2	Mar	281.5-79.5
May	287.5-86.8	May	284.5-80.0
Aug	292.5-91.8		Volume: 462

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 14

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB.	73.46	92.37	121.03
(+/-)	+0.56	+3.32	-1.14
Eng/Wales:	73.26	92.52	118.89
(+/-)	-0.48	+3.19	-2.86
(%)	+3.7	-2.9	-21.1
Scotland:	75.57	91.60	126.25
(+/-)	+1.68	+4.06	+3.10
(%)	-19.3	+1.5	-24.7

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (£/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq		Mar	unq	
Sep	unq				Volume: 0

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Jan	99.60
Mar	100.90
May	102.35
Jun	103.30
Sep	90.75
	Volume: 406

BARLEY (close £/t)

Jan	103.70
Mar	105.20
May	106.50
Sep	92.50
Nov	94.80
	Volume: 10

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	
Dec	
Feb	
Apr	
	Volume: 0

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	130.0	130.0
Apr	96.0	98.4
May	113.0	113.3
		Volume: 147

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Jan 61.00-61.50

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Oman offered to cut output by 5% to 10% but this failed to impress the market.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	13.85	n/c
Brent 15 day (Jan)	13.75	n/c
Brent 15 day (Feb)	13.90	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	14.70	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	15.05	+0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	142 (n/c)	144 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	145 (-1)	147 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Jan	150 (+1)	153 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Feb	151 (n/c)	154 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	53 (n/c)	55 (n/c)
Naphtha	128 (-2)	131 (-1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Jan	144.75-45.00	Apr	146.50-46.75
Feb	145.50-45.75	May	148.50-47.50
Mar	146.25-46.50	Jun	148.00-49.25
			Vol: 12927

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	13.79-13.81	Apr	14.46-14.48
Feb	13.95-13.97	May	14.88 SLR
Mar	14.21-14.24		Vol: 43396

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Jan	136.00-40.50	Apr	151.00-59.00
Feb	154.75 SLR	May	154.00-61.00
Mar	unq		Vol: 0

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 93	1238	1238	1233
Jan 94	1254	1250	1250
Feb 94	unq	unq	1268
Apr 94	1285	1285	1286

Vol: 88 lots. Open int'st: 2441 Index 1231 -3

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff
(Official) (Volume prev day)

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1741.0-1741.5	1765.0-1765.5	334150
Lead ($/tonne)	479.00-480.00	492.00-492.50	336075
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1001.5-1002.0	1019.0-1020.0	483750
Tin ($/tonne)	4875.0-4880.0	4930.0-4935.0	23800
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1123.5-1124.0	1142.0-1143.0	2634025
Nickel ($/tonne)	5250.0-5255.0	5325.0-5330.0	105534

هكذا من الأصل

Free trade, not fine detail, is the real boost from Gatt

Colin Narbrough says the Uruguay Round has brought sound progress over a broad front, even if it missed the most ambitious aims

The final outcome of the Uruguay Round is certain to disappoint many consumers, companies and politicians as it falls well short of the ambitious target for trade liberalisation set seven years ago.

As the details of the agreement emerged in Geneva yesterday, on the eve of the deadline for a fast-track approval from the American Congress, it was clear that the tortuous round will not deliver all the hundreds of billions of dollars it was supposed to towards global output. For all the soundbites from Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, about a "comprehensive agreement" between America and the European Community, and talk of cutting the gordian knot for freer world trade, the more measured language of Hugo Paemen, chief EC negotiator to Gatt, was probably a more honest judgment. The agreement, he said, was "not exactly as ambitious as we had hoped". The European Commission, which negotiates on behalf of Britain and the other EC countries on external trade matters, would be justified in claiming that it has kept the Gatt ball rolling towards the declared goal of a Multilateral Trade Organisation (MTO), armed with the means to judge and settle disputes. Although there appears to be some degree of difference on the scope of the MTO between America and the EC, about countries' rights to resort to unilateral sanctions in trade rows, the final text agreed by Mr Kantor and Sir Leon Brittan, the EC trade commissioner, refers specifically to participants being committed to bringing their national trade legislation into line with the MTO. The existing Gatt does not have the full status of an international organisation, although it was originally planned to under the new world order established after the Second World War.

Mr Paemen said the EC "hopes" that America will adhere to the commitments in the text, but the apparent gap suggests Mr Kantor is deliberately trying to keep the US Congress on side. His remarks in Geneva yesterday suggested that he believed Washington had retained the right to deploy all its fearsome anti-dumping and "fare" trade armoury if it thought fit. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development estimates that the economic boost from the tangible goods side of the Gatt deal would be $270 billion by 2002. As this was based on tariff cuts on agriculture and industrial products only contained in the draft final act, it is unlikely to be achieved in full, since several elements of the overall package have fallen away.

But, as David Roche, global strategist for Morgan Stanley, argues, the actual economic benefit of the round is hardly the important thing. He points out that world output in the year 2000 is likely to be about $30,000 billion, making the Gatt contribution pale into insignificance. Most important for world consumer and business confidence, according to Mr Roche, is the maintenance of a system of free and open trade.

Despite the failure of the Americans and Europeans to resolve their differences over audio-visual trade, financial services, maritime transport and subsidies to aircraft builders, the round has produced significant progress on a broad front. The liberalisation of the services sector, according to some estimates, was expected to make as large a contribution to world growth as manufactured goods. The 18-month thinking time the Americans have secured in the financial services sector leaves a range of other services still within the agreement and should not lead to much deterioration in flows of financial services. It will delay the freeing up of the market, but international banks and insurance companies hoping to gain from a market opening deal will not go away and are likely to simply play a longer game.

In maritime transport, the US offer to the EC was too modest to allow the liberalisation of ocean shipping, ports and auxiliary services. The cost saving this could have brought for world trade has only been guessed at, but for nations with big merchant fleets it has been an important issue. A US-EC accord would have been predicated on 30 leading maritime countries committing themselves to opening their markets. With minimalist American offer this "crucial mass" could not be mustered.

On the thorny issue of subsidies to civil aircraft manufacturers, the American and European deal effectively leaves both sides stuck with their bilateral accord, the so-called Airbus pact. This will allow the American government to continue to prop up its aircraft industry with indirect subsidies, while the EC governments will give more direct aid to Airbus Industrie. The two sides have agreed to recognise the concept of "serious prejudice" where subsidies exceed 5 per cent of the final value of a product. In such cases the producer of the subsidies goods will be obliged to justify the support.

Audio-visual, the negotiating area that drew most attention in the closing days of the Uruguay Round, proved an insurmountable obstacle to Mr Kantor and Sir Leon. The EC position was that the Americans and the Europeans could get together on working out some way of resolving their differences within multilateral rules. The Americans rejected the Brussels offer on grounds of principle, appearing to want no agreement rather than the wrong one. But continued disagreement here is not expected to prevent further US penetration of the EC market, as US companies will be able to set up inside the single market. America's $3.8 billion trade surplus with Europe in the audio-visual field looks unlikely to be diminished.

The negotiators have sought to sow the seeds of hope that the four areas that proved too resistant to resolve will eventually return to the Uruguay Round fold in some shape or other. But this does not detract from achievements elsewhere in the lengthy negotiation process. Average tariff cuts of 33 per cent must be good news for trade and consumers. In the EC, the average tariff cuts are 50 per cent. In a range of specific products, including steel, pharmaceuticals and beer, zero tariffs have been agreed, conditional in some cases upon special parallel arrangements.

Although the big agricultural exporters were angered by the rejigging of the Blair House deal between the US and EC on farm trade, seeing it as an unnecessarily generous move for the EC, the round will produce improvements for the exporting nations as subsidised exports recede, albeit gradually. The dual benefit will be for consumers, who will see most food prices fall, and for growers, who will see most world prices rices. Accounting for only 11 per cent of world trade, agriculture has been the worst offender in terms of protection, with the EC a particular offender. Consumers in the EC area are estimated to pay $60 billion in higher prices and taxation for supporting their farmers. America is also footing a bill of $90 billion for its agricultural industry.

When all the detail of the Gatt agreement is scrutinised, the consumer corporate and political lobbyists will doubtless come to the fore again. But the Uruguay Round deal can hardly be viewed as the worst of all possible worlds in an environment where governments, under pressure from stagnant economies, could be tempted to test the protectionist option again.

While corporate power has driven most of the lobbying for change, or not, in the Uruguay Round, the consumer voice has been considerably less heard, as too has the voice of the developing world. James Ffrebrace, the director-general of the international organisation for consumer unions, has particularly been concerned about the trend to weaken the special and differential treatment enshrined in the original Gatt charter for the developing world. He has lobbied hard for a clear commitment that would give the very poor countries a better deal. The Gatt round, with all its shortcomings, is expected to boost aggregate world output and confidence, but trade economists expect it will lead to further enrichment of the richer countries and leave the poorest to become poorer.

As the World Bank's latest debt tables reveal, the richer countries are actually net receivers of income from the Third World, and the developing countries receiving strong investment flows are very much focused in the dynamic regions of Southeast Asia, China and Latin America. The Gatt accord is likely to make things go faster, but not to produce the dramatic change that was originally conceived.



Britain's exports can expect to gain from the Gatt agreement

TEMPUS

The battle for Trafalgar

A YEAR ago, the battle of Trafalgar seemed to be one about control, between the incumbent management and Hongkong Land. Yesterday, Trafalgar's figures showed that as soon as Simon Keswick had won the first contest, he was faced with another challenge: a battle to rescue the company he had just invested in.

Considering the astounding size of Trafalgar House's write-offs and provisions, one could accuse Hongkong Land of doing a "kitchen sink" job on the balance sheet of the company it now controls, to enhance future profits and accelerate disposals. Unfortunately the new valuations look only too realistic.

Under the old regime, the Ritz was valued at £650,000 a room, suggesting it could earn £650 a night per room. Even for the Ritz at the height of a boom, this looked implausible. The new value of £250,000 a room looks more in line with reality. The rest of the write-downs seems similarly sensible and the rationalisation provision of £65.3 million looks modest in comparison to both the rest of group's troubles and the contruction industry as a whole. The episode once again shows how subjective asset valuations can be, and how difficult it is for outsiders to fathom the reality behind them until it is too late.

Mr Keswick, Trafalgar's chairman, was keen to compare yesterday's convertible with an IPO for a new company. That is understandable, given the amount Hongkong Land has pumped into the group. As a new issue, the convertible certainly looks attractive, since the carry a gross coupon of 7.5 per cent, a low conversion premium and is backed by the Jardine Matheson empire.

But this leaves the ordinary shareholders in the lurch, as the forecast of a 1p dividend next year shows. Since the group will be saddled with such a high dividend on the new convertible, there will be little left for the ordinaries. Hongkong Land says it is a long-term investor. Others must be likewise, since there seems little chance of much of a return until the end of the decade.

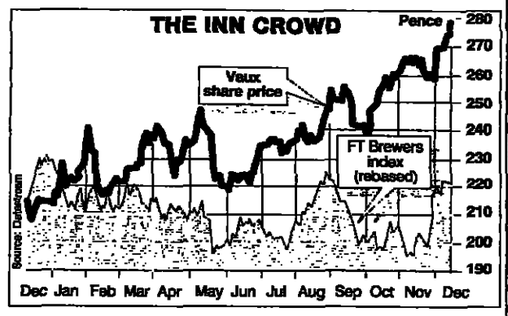
Vaux Group

COMING at the tail end of a miserable reporting season for the beerage, Vaux's figure seemed to offer some hope. The group increased profits in all its divisions, even lifting the output of its breweries by 1.7 per cent (against an industry decline of up to 3 per cent), while raising brewing profits by a tenth.

Unfortunately, the growth was largely created by Vaux's acquisition of several blocks of pubs last year, including 124 from Inntrepreneur. Without these, beer volumes would have easily fallen as much as those of rivals and the profits from the division would have dropped sharply.

The 11 per cent profit growth at Swallow, the hotel chain, is more encouraging, since most other mid-market hotels are still struggling to underpin room rates and occupancy levels. Swallow's recovery suggests it has more efficient marketing and a tighter control on costs than its rivals.

The recovery potential of Swallow, which is producing a third of group profits even at this low point in the cycle, combined with a generous dividend, has made Vaux's shares noticeably outperform the brewing sector for most of the year. But the lacklustre conditions in the beer industry will prevent group profits rising too fast, while a cover of only 1.7 times must limit dividend growth. At 260p, the shares trade on more than 16 times current year earnings forecasts, expensive compared to some other regionals.



Southern Water

BRIEF hopes of a respite from the continuing rise in water bills over the weekend appear largely unfounded, since the government's supposed coup over drinking water and bathing directives appears to exclude the all-important Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.

This piece of EC legislation is expected to force Britain's water companies into a capital expenditure requirement of some £10 billion, and Ofwat, which has taken on the cause of lower bills, has been lobbying for a longer timescale for completion of the work. In the cold light of day, the Government's offering to payers of water bills contains more public relations than cash.

The waste water directive is key to a company like Southern which has a long coastline. The Brussels decision to hold firm means that Southern's clean-up bill now depends in part on whether areas like the Solent are classified as sea or estuary. If the government opts for the latter, the water company could face an additional bill of over £100 million. For Southern shareholders, more expenditure is not necessarily bad as it argues for a higher price increase and the company can make a margin on the work done, but the regulator is pushing heavily for cost savings. At least Southern has been one of the more successful water companies in its unregulated businesses, having paid little for businesses that are now generating cash. With a clean balance sheet, it is better placed than many in the sector.

TSB

TSB'S aggressive disposal programme returned to haunt it briefly yesterday when it was forced a pay Imro's £740,000 fine on Noble Lowndes, which it sold to Sedgwick during the summer. The bank will also have to pay out compensation to all Lowndes's wronged clients.

For once, TSB can congratulate itself on good timing. By selling Noble Lowndes before the affair became public, it has escaped most of the bad publicity from the affair, which could have eaily damaged its other life businesses in the retail bank and in Hill Samuel.

If the Imro investigation may not have hastened TSB's disposal of Lowndes, so much the better. TSB looks far more focused following this and other sales, leaving the management to concentrate on improving the retail bank and shoring up the remnants of Hill Samuel.

Intrum Justitia

FOR the few who did not know it, Intrum Justitia is a large yacht which has just won the second leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race after a gruelling journey from Uruguay to Australia. People who pay their bills on time are less likely to know the yacht's owners, a company which also happens to be called Intrum Justitia, and is Europe's largest debt collector. Despite its London quote, most of its business is in Scandinavia, a market in deep gloom with currencies to match. Intrum has grown its profits in the recession so far but could it be that when times are really hard people don't just pay bills slowly, they sometimes sail off into the sunset leaving their bad debts behind? Corporate jets, helicopters and fountains in head office are all sure signs to sell a company's shares. Perhaps large sponsored yachts are too.

BUSINESS LETTERS

League tables on repayments

From Mr Peter F. Marlow

Sir, Your paper (December 4) carried details of refunds which the Securities and Investments Board has ordered to be made by some insurance companies to individuals who were offered wrong advice by the companies or their agents, and who acted upon that advice.

That the companies should return the profit made from such transactions is just. However, the payments to be made will often be in excess of the profit made and as a result other clients will suffer.

In this case, would it not be reasonable to give the widest publicity to repayments ordered? Companies might then publish tables to show how far down the league they are for repayments, as well as how far up the league they are for profits.

Yours faithfully,
PETER F. MARLOW,
Brookside, Crowborough Hill,
Crowborough, East Sussex.

Time and money

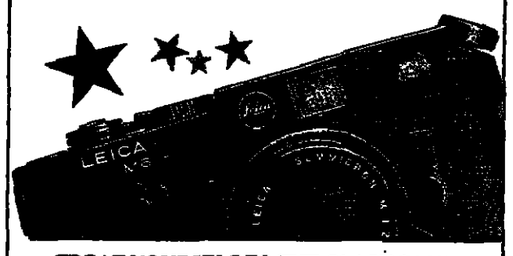
From Mr Tom Jago

I am self-employed in a modest way. I usually receive about 15 assessments and demands in a year, few of which are either accurate or relevant, all of which demand time and fees from my accountant. I assume they cost the Inspector money, too.

Yours faithfully,
TOM JAGO,
31 Rivermead Court, SW6.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Davis wades in at Nomura

AS CHRISTMAS looms, the Square Mile is being swept by a wave of senior appointments. Some of the more frenetic activity centres on Nomura International, which has poached Ed Davis from Deutsche Bank for the newly created post of head of operations. Davis, 47, has held senior settlements posts at County Bank and Morgan Stanley. In a second move, Richard Gray, 44, joins Nomura from UBS, where he was director of international bond research. Previously a senior economist with Phillips & Drew, he starts in January as director in charge of research and strategy at Nomura's proprietary trading unit. Not to be outdone, UBS has hired David Goldmuntz from Salomon Brothers as head of equity sales and trading, and taken on John Giannotti from Bankers Trust to its debt & treasury division. Lastly, Kleinwort Benson has taken on Adrian Montague to join David Clementi's corporate finance team — causing a ripple in legal circles, where appointments to banks are a rarity. Montague, 45, is London's leading energy lawyer, advising the Eurotunnel consortium in the early stages, and grooming the electricity industry for privatisation. Alan Black takes on his old role.

Hive of activity

WHAT do Bessie Smith, Jurassic Park and King Henry VIII's armour have in common? They all pop up at leisure complexes run by Gardner Merchant, the contract catering-to-leisure group, which is about to celebrate its first anniversary as a public company. The armour was added yesterday with the go-ahead for a new £42.5 million Royal Armouries museum project in Leeds, destined to be the first national museum funded by public and private sector money. Gardner has invested £750,000 in the project, due for completion in 1996, with 3i taking a £6 million stake and Bank of Scotland loaning £8 million. Others in the syndicate include Electra Investment Trust and Yorkshire Electricity. Gardner's chief executive, Garry Hawkes, can point to a leisure portfolio that takes in the Bessie Smith theme park in Tennessee — named after the so-called "Queen of the Blues" of the 1920s — and a Jurassic Park exhibition at the Boston Science Museum.



"It's like a jungle in there"

Bland fare

GRANADA chief executive Gerry Robinson, forever dubbed the "upstart caterer" by comedian John Cleese after the last "hostile bid" which gave him his present job, appears to have had some minor catering problems of his own. A touch of flu or food poisoning earlier in the week left him eschewing all the delights of the Connaught's main restaurant in favour of no more than a plate of soup and a cup of coffee for lunch. Could Robinson be feeling the strain, with two bids on the table — for the National Lottery through The Great British Lottery Company, and for London Weekend Television? Not judging by the gales of laughter accompanying jokes about LWT's "blandishments" to other companies as Sir Christopher struggles to find a white knight...

Double act

TODAY'S prize for tasteful Christmas greetings goes to Swiss Life, which has shrugged off the usual dour Swiss manner in the latest edition of its newsletter for financial advisers. The cover shows champagne being liberally splashed into a glass held by a woman's hand beneath a red bauble decorated with the Swiss white cross. The headline reads: "Long-term disability and critical illness — a great double act."

NICE to see some flippancy amid all the corporate-speak of mission statements and maximising shareholder value. Sir Paul Nicholson, whose Vaux brewing-to-nursing homes group yesterday revealed its latest trading results, sums up his company as "being in the booze and snooze business".

JON ASHWORTH

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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Gilts/Fixt Int Inc	100.10	105.70	+ 0.30	5.50
Nth America	261.70	278.50	- 1.00	...
Far East	341.80	363.40	- 3.00	0.02
Europe	263.80	280.70	- 3.40	0.74
Brit Excell	71.79	76.38	+ 0.33	2.47
Brit Fndmtls Acc	402.70	109.30	+ 0.70	4.09
Brit Fndmtls Inc	78.01	82.99	+ 0.53	4.09
Global Opps	83.75	89.10	- 0.21	...
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Comdty & Energy	117.60	125.70	+ 1.60	.44
1992 Enterprise	90.78	97.09	- 0.26	1.98
Euro Capital Inc	123.50	132.00	- 0.20	.73
General	229.30	243.60	+ 0.10	2.23
Japan	134.10	142.80	- 0.11	...
Mastertrust	137.10	146.60	+ 0.20	1.27
UK Growth Dist	127.90	136.80	+ 0.60	2.10
US Emerging Cos	129.80	138.00	- 0.40	...
Income & Growth	389.00	413.80#	+ 0.40	3.17
Ethical	70.85	75.37	+ 0.20	2.41
International	110.90	117.90	+ 0.20	.43
Dividend & Growth	65.00	67.02	+ 0.22	4.19
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European Income	95.84	101.70#	- 0.65	1.47
Exempt	1020.7	1049.1	- 7.26	3.64
Exmn Income	92.76	97.38#	+ 0.18	4.59
Far East Emg Ecn	117.20	126.60	- 0.30	0.51
Fixed Interest	24.32	25.60#	+ 0.03	7.11
Fund Inv Tst	168.40	180.30	+ 0.90	0.94
Japan	185.00	197.20	+ 0.10	...
Latin American	66.80	71.06	+ 0.33	0.71
Pacific	74.34	79.84	- 0.25	0.34
Property Share	72.41	77.39	- 0.01	1.70
UK Emerging Cos	83.31	66.59	+ 0.17	1.87
UK Growth	45.02	48.42	+ 0.13	2.43
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International	154.20	164.90	+ 0.10	0.36
Japan	188.20	200.90#	- 0.20	0.01
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Worlds Asset Val	45.51	48.64	- 0.09	0.29
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Financial	75.60	80.96#	- 0.03	2.37
500.00	445.70	477.20	- 1.40	3.03
General	276.30	295.50	- 0.80	2.50
Property	243.10	260.00#	....	6.12
Trustee	189.10	202.30	....	2.30
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	103.80	103.80	....	4.61
Extra Income	119.70	128.00	- 0.20	4.10
Gilt & Fxd Int	63.52	65.65#	+ 0.15	7.68
Income	549.30	587.50	- 1.30	3.93
Income Builder	66.72	72.05	+ 0.04	4.60
Intl Income	66.88	73.27	- 0.13	2.83
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	120.30	128.30	- 0.30	2.56
Leisure	115.90	124.00	- 0.60	1.59
Recovery	408.30	437.80	- 1.10	2.61
Smlr Cos Inc	39.75	42.63	- 0.03	2.22
Special Sits	273.40	293.00	- 0.90	1.96
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	132.90	141.00#	- 0.40	0.22
Asia Acc	236.30	251.40	- 1.30	1.45
Asia Inc	147.90	157.30#	- 0.90	1.45
Euro Growth Inc	126.30	144.80	- 0.60	0.44
Japan & Gen Inc	134.20	142.80	- 0.70	....
Japan Spec Sits	73.63	77.99	- 0.19	....
Univ Tech Inc	74.07	78.71	- 0.10	0.49
Worldwide	169.20	179.60	- 0.10	0.39

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 158, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4TP
081 658 9002

American Growth	99.26	105.30	- 0.20	0.10
Amer Smlr Cos	131.80	141.20	- 0.30	....
Cash Trust	50.25	50.25#	....	4.90
Convertibles	59.79	62.87	+ 0.09	5.60
Eastern	297.40	310.10	- 1.60	1.60
Equity Income	93.42	99.58	+ 0.09	5.03
European Growth	280.70	298.40	- 1.80	1.50
Europe	191.60	204.70#	- 0.50	1.50
German Growth	74.62	79.39	- 0.98	0.70
Global Bond	71.23	75.12	+ 0.06	5.30
Global Growth	126.50	135.10#	- 0.10	....
Japan Growth	196.60	211.00	- 0.40	....
Japan Sunrise	166.00	177.60	+ 1.20	....
Korea Trust	84.33	88.88	- 0.02	....
Portfolio	134.30	143.40	....	3.20
UK Growth	92.09	97.98	+ 0.17	2.80
UK Smaller Cos	89.75	95.98	+ 0.15	1.90
Select Managers	74.77	79.99	+ 0.13	2.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
20-24 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL
071 250 3300

Intl Gwth Port Inc	76.93	81.84	+ 0.47	....
Special Oppor Inc	51.50	54.79	+ 1.63	....

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
5 Giltspur St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6441

Special Sits	173.60	186.00	+ 0.30	0.50
Dividend	83.44	89.29	+ 0.40	4.28
Int Gth & Inc	227.40	243.50	....	2.70
UK & Gen	45.78	48.96	+ 0.09	1.32
Fund of Funds	95.31	99.85	+ 0.04	....

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
50 Rothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR
041 223 6020

Balanced Growth	107.48	114.95	+ 0.26	1.55
Smaller Cos	95.23	101.90#	+ 0.44	1.03
Higher Yield	64.55	68.13	+ 0.17	3.04
American Gth Inc	68.41	73.17	+ 0.63	....
European Growth	121.48	129.93	+ 0.38	0.17
Global Bond Inc	31.38	33.29#	+ 0.16	4.86
Mngd Pnsn Inc	41.74	44.64	+ 0.17	1.06

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL
071 480 7216

Shrt Dated Gilt	70.39	71.34	+ 0.07	4.89

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH
061 837 5000

Environ	147.00	156.40#	+ 0.20	1.43
UK Growth	165.90	176.40	+ 0.50	1.84
UK Income	138.90	147.80	+ 0.30	3.77

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 651 122

Can Gro Dist	189.50	200.90	+ 0.30	1.80
-do- Income Dlg	114.10	121.00#	+ 0.10	4.41
Gth & Fxd Int	45.80	48.55	+ 0.25	5.60

For Cannon see Lincoln National

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
35 Fenchurch Street, Monument EC3M 3LE
Dlg: 071 236 5685 Enq: 071 236 5685 Dlg: 081 236 5362

American & Gen	146.30	155.70	+ 0.60	....
European Inc	76.08	80.52	- 0.37	0.74
Far East & Gen	63.54	67.60	+ 0.73	....
Smaller Cos (A-I)	75.67	80.52	+ 0.28	1.38
Growth	422.00	451.40	+ 0.30	2.15
Income & Growth	425.30	452.50	+ 1.60	3.41
Master Portfolio	10997	11109#	+22.00	1.95
Special Sits	96.40	102.56	....	2.12
High Yield	1366.0	1409.0#	- 5.00	3.90

CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh
031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 661

American Gwth Tst	37.64	40.25	+ 0.24	0.91
Cash Income	50.15	50.15#	....	5.02
European Gwth	38.29	40.62	- 0.23	0.86
Income & Gwth Inc	28.51	30.49	+ 0.26	4.06
Intnl Gwth	30.93	33.08	- 0.05	0.78
Japan Gwth	25.35	27.11	+ 0.01	....
Managed Tst Inc	48.84	53.41	- 0.22	0.49
Oriental Opps Inc	162.90	174.20	- 0.60	0.56
Property Shares	43.22	46.22#	+ 0.17	1.76
Smaller Cos	30.07	32.16	+ 0.92	1.65
UK Growth Tst	25.70	27.48	- 0.07	2.74
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Fse Global Inc	73.15	78.23	- 0.02	1.64
Cap Hse UK Inc	68.46	73.21#	+ 0.13	2.54
Exempt	33.59	34.26	....	....
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	25.39	27.15	- 0.21	0.39
European Acc	26.33	28.16	- 0.22	0.39
Financial	148.50	158.80	- 1.80	2.56
Foundation	87.03	93.08	- 0.11	2.74
German	50.58	54.09#	- 0.71	0.07
High Income	79.84	85.38#	+ 1.17	5.98
Income	135.30	144.70	- 1.80	3.80
Intl Growth	38.09	40.72#	- 0.06	0.16
Mngd Philo Inc	102.70	109.80	+ 0.50	1.68
Mngd Philo Acc	195.40	208.90	+ 1.00	1.68
Monthly Income	80.67	86.27#	+ 0.05	5.73
North American	109.40	117.00	- 1.00	0.16
Orient	142.80	152.70	- 1.50	....

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH
071 606 9700

Cazenove Portfolio	81.92	87.62	+ 0.06	2.21
American Portfolio	90.01	96.02#	+ 0.21	1.00
European Portfolio	87.29	93.17	+ 0.74	1.03
Japanese Portfolio	61.83	65.99	+ 0.33	....
Pacific Portfolio	141.94	152.63#	+ 0.34	0.71
UK Inc & Growth	73.99	79.32	+ 0.20	3.75
Utility & Bond	58.96	60.67	+ 0.42	5.91

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
8 Old Jewry, London EC4R 7BA 071 332 9000

UK General Tst	67.32	71.61	- 0.41	2.79
Global Tst	61.08	64.97	- 0.05	0.30
Recovery Tst	69.15	73.56	- 0.59	1.79

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT UTT
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD
071 837 7007

Intl Growth	133.84	144.46#	....	1.80
UK Growth	103.32	111.66	....	1.12
UK Income	107.85	117.08#	....	4.16

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Beckman Intl	91.83	97.06	....	1.72
Beck Blo-Tech	41.61	44.27#	....	....
Acorn Ethical Tst	154.19	162.30#	....	1.15
City Fin Assets	70.20	73.89	....	1.66
City Fin America	81.42	85.71	....	....
City Fin Intl	73.77	77.68#	....	0.50
City Fin Japan	152.72	160.76	....	....
Friars Hse Cap	268.18	282.29	....	2.30
Friars Hse Inc	206.36	218.37#	....	4.80
Bangkok Wrld Gth	132.65	141.12	....	0.71
Fairmont Cap Gth	137.90	145.16#	....	....
-do- Inc & Gth	115.96	122.06#	....	1.62
Fairmount Intl	153.37	161.44#	....	....
City Fin Pfilo Inc	61.55	65.48#	....	3.41

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0392 412 144

Emerging Markets	55.29	58.67	+ 0.56	....

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393

American Gwth	57.38	61.86	+ 0.38	....
Atlas Mngd Gwth	36.98	39.72	- 0.08	0.11
Dragon Growth	27.85	29.86	+ 0.49	0.33
Equity High Inc	85.27	90.47#	+ 0.19	3.49
European Gwth	47.75	50.66	- 0.30	0.79
Evergreen	29.45	31.50	+ 0.07	....
General Equity	84.54	89.38	+ 0.20	2.14
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	28.14	29.57	+ 0.09	7.86
Japan Growth	44.08	47.58	- 0.38	....
Pedigree Gwth	48.98	51.03	+ 0.21	2.06
Ped Sm Cos Inc	30.51	32.37#	+ 0.08	0.88
Retirement Inc	26.07	28.00	+ 0.05	4.60
Special Sits	35.81	38.30	+ 0.08	1.88
UK & Overseas	49.31	52.32	+ 0.06	1.05

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY
0634 898 000

Capital	65.31	69.85	- 0.08	2.75
Income	63.05	67.41	+ 0.19	3.69

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9855

PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	165.93	176.52	+ 0.04	5.01
Fixed & Convertible	47.13	50.14	+ 0.16	5.66
Monthly Inc Plus	53.39	56.80	+ 0.10	7.89
Preference Share	52.14	55.47	+ 0.08	6.86
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	134.18	142.74	+ 0.07	5.76
Managed Fund	66.81	73.20	- 0.01	2.75
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	39.34	41.85	- 0.01	1.96
UK & General	78.18	83.17	+ 0.08	2.60
UK Growth	135.31	143.95	+ 0.12	1.62
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	176.67	187.95	- 2.09	....
Far Eastern Gth	138.43	147.27	- 0.55	0.28
Global Bond	88.16	93.68	+ 0.06	5.70
Japan Growth	110.13	117.16	- 0.23	....
North American Gth	161.96	172.32	+ 0.62	....
Oriental Growth	86.63	92.16	+ 0.56	....
Worldwide Growth	62.83	66.84	+ 0.02	0.25
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.19	92.19	+ 0.01	4.74
Homemaker Fund	77.17	82.10	+ 0.21	1.87
Quilter Fund	137.93	146.73	+ 0.31	2.03

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
Linton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
0438 744 949

Growth Inc	58.33	62.05	+ 0.25	2.90
High Income	34.63	36.83	+ 0.13	4.40
Japan	32.17	34.22	- 0.15	....
Smaller Cos Inc	28.99	30.83#	+ 0.13	2.40
Statistical	30.16	32.08#	+ 0.14	1.00
North American	32.12	34.17	+ 0.21	0.50
Europeans	34.94	37.17	- 0.19	0.60

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

Consistent UT	31.38	33.70	....	4.39

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494

Equity Dist	804.10	818.30#	....	3.74

CREDIT LISBON UT MGRS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
0277 690 370

Fellowship Tst	70.28	74.77	- 0.14	1.63
Income	240.90	256.30	- 0.50	3.73
Smaller Cos	137.50	146.00	+ 0.70	0.98
Inv Portfolio	77.11	82.04	+ 0.12	1.91
High Income Port	69.08	73.49	+ 0.16	3.51

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS
071 410 0177

Euro Small Cos	1382.2	1410.2#	....	....
Japan Small Cos	1039.1	1058.9#	....	....
UK Small Cos	1631.0	1703.5	....	....
US Small Cos	1592.4	1639.1#	....	....

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUNDS LTD
66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL
071 377 8839

Disc Inc	182.60	192.20#	....	3.96

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
25, Rawelson Terrace, Edinburgh 031 345 2500

European Gwth	241.60	255.40	- 1.60	1.17
New Asia	221.80	236.10	- 0.20	0.33
Japan Growth	115.35	122.90	+ 0.20	....
Jap Smlr Cos	466.00	495.10	- 1.30	....
Nth Amer	244.20	256.60	+ 1.90	0.94
Shlfld Asia Pac Inc	124.00	131.40	- 0.20	0.48
UK Inc & Gth	219.50	234.30	+ 0.80	3.45

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	139.70	148.60#	+ 0.60	2.32
UK Higher Inc Inc	153.90	163.70#	+ 0.80	5.41
UK Pref & Fl Inc	64.36	68.22#	+ 0.18	6.46
Envrnmntl Opps	79.77	84.96	- 0.03	1.45

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh
0345 090 529

American	119.70	127.20#	+ 0.70	0.39
Convertibles	23.43	24.89#	+ 0.01	7.83
Equity Income	139.40	144.90#	+ 0.70	3.45
Euro Fund	43.51	46.04	- 0.21	0.87
Financial	49.98	53.10	+ 0.05	2.28
Growth & Inc	241.10	256.20	+ 1.50	2.93
High Dist	161.70	171.80#	+ 0.60	4.37
International	323.20	297.10	+ 0.30	0.62
Intl Income	95.95	102.40	+ 0.10	2.54
Latin American	43.42	46.13	+ 0.43	0.27
Pacific	85.62	90.97	- 0.05	0.33
Preference Share	25.43	27.02	+ 0.07	5.74
Tokyo	194.30	206.50	+ 2.10	....
UK Smaller Cos	224.70	238.70	+ 1.10	0.98

ELCON UTS
Chantry Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA
0689 70538

Elcon Trust	219.90	230.60	+10.90	....

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Hanningtons Gardens, London SW7 4JU
071 373 2261

Endurance Fd	187.70	210.30	....	0.44

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QL
0296 431 450

European	73.74	77.62	- 0.75	1.69
Far Eastern	313.66	330.19	- 0.01	1.39
High Income	134.21	141.27#	+ 0.01	4.37
Intl Growth	115.78	121.88	+ 0.18	1.10
North American	115.95	122.05	- 0.50	0.93
Pelican	118.75	125.00	+ 0.05	3.00
Smaller Cos	20.98	24.72#	- 0.19	2.01
Special Sits	87.63	92.24	- 0.10	1.94
Tst of Inv Tsts	180.28	189.77	+ 1.15	1.97

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Smaller Cos Inc	189.45	197.35	....	1.77
Smaller Cos Acc	327.98	341.66	....	1.77
Recovery	47.31	49.28#	+ 1.48	2.25

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB
0392 412 144

Balanced	126.64	128.09#	+ 0.32	4.86
Capital Growth	79.66	85.43	+ 0.21	....
Bd of Inv Trsts	43.99	46.61	+ 0.21	0.24
High Income	49.50	52.90	+ 0.01	8.39
Warrant	39.97	64.75	- 0.11	....
Zero Preference	37.49	39.78#	+ 0.06	....

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 707

Family Asset Tst	73.43	78.11	+ 0.50	2.60
Family Income Tst	51.08	54.33	+ 0.34	6.00

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Family Trust	79.68	84.76	+ 1.12	1.70
United Charities	248.60	264.40#	+10.90	3.50

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161
Broker Dealings: 0800 414 181

Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	....	4.90
Cash Fund				
Stabilizer Growth Range				
Controlled Risk: UK	25.21	26.56	+ 0.01	3.11
-do- Europe	24.72	26.04	- 0.14	4.92
-do- America	23.82	25.11	+ 0.14	0.53
-do- Far Japan	28.16	29.66	- 0.01	0.76
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	31.89	32.

Shares run out of steam

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 13. Dealings end December 31. §Contango day January 4. Settlement day January 10. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
487	345	Abbey Ntl	462	+1	11.8	3.2	17.8
290	179	Allied Irish	278	...	...	3.7	14.2
226½	130	Ans New Z	217½	-5	...	4.0	∞
3806½	2712½	Bankamerica	2993⅞	-37½	...	...	...
295	177	Bk of Ireland	276	...	...	...	...
350	325	Bk Leumi UK	350	...	...	4.5	20.4
230½	116½	Bank Scotland	226	...	12.0	6.1	...
646	362	Barclays	612	-½	4.6	2.6	30.7
4½	2	Benchmark	4½	+3	...	2.6	...
27½	15½	Carlisle	26	...	...	...	5.9
598	395	Cater Allen	593 †	-1	28.0	5.0	...
153	85	Cattles	150	+1½	...	...	...
2487½	1787½	Chase Manh	2187½	-46½	...	3.8	20.0
2600	1343½	Citicorp	2337½	-25	...	...	...
485	250	Close Bros	385	...	...	...	...
£155	9275	Commerzbk	£149	...	...	2.8	17.6
£346	£250½	Deutsche Bk	£136	-400	...	2.7	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	58	-97½	...	1.8	...
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	-1	...	1.1	...
529	343	Gerrard Nat	452	...	...	0.4	...
829	490	HSBC	819	-2	21.5	5.9	12.0
841	474	HSBC HK	830	-7	20.0	3.1	19.6
403	243	Hambros	372	-5	20.0	3.0	19.9
428	313	Joseph (L)	418 †	+2	14.3	4.6	17.2
155	96	King Shaxson	131 †	...	10.7	5.0	...
549	312	Kleinwort Ben	541	-1	9.0	8.6	...
656	402	Lloyds	627	...	16.7	3.6	18.8
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	94	+8	19.1	3.8	17.9
575	322	Nat Aust Bk	545	...	2.9	3.9	18.6
620	398	Nat West	593	-3	...	3.9	...
460	270	Provident	443	+4	17.8	3.7	36.0
54	39	Rea Bros	54	-6	12.4	3.5	19.2
462	207	Ryl Bk Scot	434 †	+2	0.5	1.3	57.4
1335	467½	Schroders	1263	-3	...	3.2	23.2
1259	576	Stand Chart	1195	+5	...	1.2	25.2
250	145½	TSB	248	...	20.5	2.1	...
190	78	Union Disc	104	...	6.4	3.2	...
940	529	Warburg SG	887	-3	...	...	...
8600	4843½	Wells Fargo	8175	-7	...	2.8	13.0
208	121	Westpac	208	+137½	...	2.5	...
325	188	Winitrust	315	+5	9.3	3.7	28.2

BREWERIES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
646	517	Allied-Lyons	618 †	+2	...	4.3	17.1
647	441	Bass	535 †	+8	...	4.6	14.5
299	189	Boddington	282	...	7.5	3.4	16.4
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	418	...	...	3.0	18.2
184	129	Burtonwd Brw	175	...	4.7	3.4	14.6
144	75	Eldridge P 'A'▲	143	...	...	3.2	∞
70½	50	Fosters Brewing	61	-1	...	4.3	∞
435	338	Fullr Sm 'A'▲	418	...	7.5	2.3	17.8
480	373	Grand Met	445	-13	...	3.7	17.0
427	347	Greenalls Grp	412	-1	...	3.8	13.9
575	505	Greene King	548	-5	...	2.9	15.2
521	388	Guinness	465	-4	...	3.3	17.4
281	230	Hardy Hanson	232	-4	8.5	4.7	∞
138	105	Heavitree▲	135	...	3.0	2.8	32.2
353	256	Highland Dist	329	-1	...	2.5	16.4
3138	2538	Holt J	3125	...	42.0	1.7	21.4
80	33	Hoskins Brew	78 #	...	...	...	56.2
323	250	Invrgordn Dist	301	...	...	2.9	17.2
186	118	Macallan-Glen	170	...	4.3	4.2	20.2
465	375	Macdn Martn 'A'	385	...	...	2.9	18.4
225	164	Mansfield	194 †	...	...	2.6	13.9
299	231	Marston Thmp	282	+1	...	2.5	17.0
557	288½	Matthew Clark	557	...	...	4.0	18.6
300	210	Mrrydwn W	233 †	...	7.0	3.8	18.4
580	455	Morland	513	-25	...	2.4	17.6
12	6½	Paramount▲	8	-½	...	2.1	∞
207	145	Regent Inns	207	+3	...	2.7	21.0
1241	753	SA Breweries	1241 †	+20	...	2.2	21.0
554	393	Scot & New	535	-2	...	4.0	16.2
225	155½	Taunton Cider	165½	+3½	6.2	4.7	12.9
283	213	Vaux Group	280	+1	9.5	4.3	∞
357	325	Wetherspoon JD	325	...	...	2.1	25.2
578	435	Whitbread 'A'	574	+2	...	3.9	13.8
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	523 †	...	12.6	3.0	∞
515	475	Young 'A'	485	...	14.7	3.8	20.1

BUILDING, ROADS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
140	73	Abbey	140	...	...	1.7	23.0
25½	12½	Albrighton▲	19	+1	...	0.7	...
149	87	Allen▲	148 †	...	...	4.2	33.5
120	65	Amec	114	-2	3.0	3.3	21.1
12	4	Anglia Sec	7½	...	...	...	...
326	150	Ashtead▲	323	...	...	1.8	34.2
143	101	Attwoods	125	...	...	5.0	...
322	180	BPB Ind	322	+6	...	3.0	38.5
94	57	Baggeridge Brk	92	...	3.1	4.2	30.9
31	18	Bailey (Benj) Con	26	...	0.6	2.9	...
108	74	Barcom	85	...	1.2	1.8	15.4
56½	32½	Bardon	42	...	2.0	6.0	20.7
216	94	Barratt Devs	213	+1	4.0	2.3	∞
460	305	Bellway	460	+3	12.0	3.3	∞
43	15	Bellwinch	41	...	...	...	...
485	295½	Berkeley Gp	485	+5	...	1.6	26.1
116	45	Bett Bros	108	...	...	2.3	13.9
63	36	Blockleys	47	+1	1.0	2.7	51.9
355	189	Blue Circle	334	-4	...	2.2	...
285	230	Boot (Henry)	273	...	6.0	2.7	15.3
106	78	Breedon PLC	92	...	4.6	6.2	22.6
131	82	Br Dredging	130	...	5.2	5.0	28.9
86	45	Brit Fittings	80	...	1.7	2.7	...
161½	99	Bryant	161½	+3½	...	3.7	32.6
123	53	CALA	122	...	...	2.4	...
340	200	CRH	340	+1	...	2.5	18.7
43	18	Cakebread Rby	30	...	...	...	...
41½	21	Costain	27½	...	...	...	...
150	86½	Countryside	147	...	...	3.6	∞
100	38	Crest Nicholson	97	...	0.0	...	...
112	27	Cussins	102	...	...	1.2	...
7½	1½	Dunton▲	5½	...	...	...	...
25	15	Edmond Hldgs	19	...	0.3	2.0	...
285	178	Epwin	273	...	7.0	3.2	23.1
59	32	Erith	55	-1	0.3	0.8	...
506	252	Eve Group▲	450	-5	...	2.9	16.9
6½	3	Explaura▲	4½	...	...	...	...
140	97	Freeman Gp▲	133	...	...	4.7	21.2
50	38	Galliford	38	...	...	3.3	...
81	52	Gibbs & Dandy	79	...	...	3.2	...
923	695	Gleeson (MJ)	910	...	...	1.8	15.8
164	90	Hewden-Stuart	156	...	...	2.6	27.8
51	28	Hewetson	46	...	...	3.4	33.6
404	186	Haywd Wlm	402	-1	13.0	4.3	...
119	37	Higgs & Hill	111	...	2.5	2.8	...
38	26	How Gp	29	...	...	5.0	...
21	15	Howard Hldgs	21	...	0.5	3.0	...
78	39	Ibstock Johnsen	72	+1	1.0	1.7	...
19½	12½	Jarvis	13½	...	...	...	...
316	196	Laing (J)	307	+4	9.0	3.7	12.3
127½	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	120½	...	...	6.6	...
110	55	Ln Clydeside▲	110	...	4.5	5.1	41.4
23	10½	Lovell (YJ)	19½	...	...	...	7.0
350	240	Manders	330	+6	9.3	3.5	20.2
183	93	Marley	179	+3	4.2	2.9	32.5
127	61	Marshalls	125	+4	...	4.6	16.3
190	122	Maunders (J)	190	...	...	3.4	18.3
220	96	McAlpine (A)	220	+1	8.5	3.7	38.1
42	23	McCarthy & S	42	+1	0.5	1.5	...
504	272	Meyer Int	504	+5	...	2.5	50.5
129	62	Mowlem (J)	125	...	4.0	4.0	...
162	51	NSM	154	-1	...	...	...
53	48	Needler▲	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
171	106	Newman Tnks	157	...	...	5.3	21.0
300	197	Persimmon	282	+3	8.6	3.8	28.8
26	10	Phoenix Timber	10	...	...	...	...
1725	1237½	Pochins	1550	...	28.0	2.4	21.8
168	80	Prowting	167	...	3.4	2.5	...
6½	1½	Quiligotti▲	1½	...	...	...	...
906	555	RMC Gp	904	+5	...	2.8	33.9
117	75½	Raine Ind	82	...	...	4.6	19.4
36	18	Ransom▲	23	...	...	...	...
605	402	Redland	577	-6	25.0	5.4	33.6
86	64	Roskel	80	...	4.3	6.7	11.8
319	207	Rugby Group	310	-3	6.4	2.6	23.7
68	23	Sclfd-Brea▲	63	-1	...	0.5	...
163	68	Sharpe & Fisher	162	...	...	3.1	28.2
255	86½	Sheffield Insl	234	+2	...	2.7	62.3
182	82	Sheriff Hldgs▲	182	+7	...	2.6	∞
95	66	Shorco▲	93	...	...	7.0	21.1
240	196	Smart (J)	222	...	...	4.8	16.7
6½	1½	Stormin	2	...	...	...	...
169	100	Tarmac	159	-6	5.5	4.3	...
186	131	Tay Homes	164 †	-1	...	4.5	20.3
139	63	Taylor Woodrw	133	-1	1.0	0.9	...
633	433	Tilbury Dougls	615	-3	33.0	6.7	20.0
39	19	Torex Hire▲	35	+1	...	1.4	...
298	168	Travis Perkins	297	+2	8.0	3.4	52.3
40	25	Try Group	28	...	1.0	4.5	7.9
28	21	Tudor▲	21	...	...	1.5	...
99	41	Vibroplant	86	...	2.5	3.6	30.9
65	20	Ward Hldgs	46	...	...	...	...
36	25	Waterhouse	33	...	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	430	...	...	3.5	18.5
21½	6½	Wescol▲	20	...	...	...	...
181	90	Westbury	180	...	5.0	3.5	28.1
12	4½	West Scaffold▲	7	...	...	...	...
4½	3	Wiggins	3½	...	...	...	...
461	362	Wilson Bowdn	461	+6	...	2.4	32.4
205	147	Wilson (C)	183	...	3.9	2.7	31.7
194	104	Wimpey G	170	-4	...	3.9	...
47	15	YRM	19	...	0.5	3.3	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	463	ADT	578	...	...	...	...
253	198	Adam & Harvey	250	...	13.0	6.5	4.6
92	56	Air London▲	61	...	...	7.2	10.9
56	37	African Lakes	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
178	93	Aitio Sec	130	...	...	5.9	23.3
139	84	BET Ord	137½	...	...	2.0	5.5
115	41	BNB Res	114	...	4.9	5.4	...
318	183	BPP	233	...	8.3	4.5	12.9
285	195	Barbour Index	240	...	8.0	4.2	16.4
28	15	Boustead	23	...	0.7	3.8	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	222	-1	4.7	2.7	16.2
26	11	Broadcastle▲	22	...	...	1.4	17.5
73	54	Brooks Service	56	-2	...	1.1	...
109	86	CRT Gp	97	...	...	3.8	17.1
193	139½	Capita Group	191	...	...	1.5	29.8
45½	31	Caskel Plc	40 †	...	...	2.8	15.4
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	23½	...	...	...	...
70	26	Christie	70	+5	...	...	...
384	228	Chubb Sec	349 †	+1	...	1.9	21.7
116	90	Comac▲	109	...	...	1.7	28.5
38	6½	Corp Services	38	+1	...	...	...
91	20	Coutts Cnslg	81	-2	...	...	...
142	50	Dart	140 †	...	3.3	2.9	19.0
256	198	Davis Service	217	+1	...	4.5	14.2
124	85	EW Pact▲	124	...	4.4	4.6	16.3
32	11	Gardiner	26	...	0.4	2.0	18.0
277	215	Hays	259	-2	...	2.6	22.6
248	174	Hogg Robinsn	230	...	...	3.6	17.2
70	34	Holmes Protectn	39	...	...	...	2.4
323	127	Hutch Whamp	317	-5	...	1.5	26.5
2175	975	ISS B DKr	2175	+100	...	0.9	15.0
637	475	Inchcape	532	+2	...	3.3	17.3
875	669	Johnson Clean	868	...	25.7	3.7	18.9
12	2½	Lep	7	...	...	...	...
288	173	Mitie Gp	275	...	3.5	1.6	21.4
1187	893	Manpower	1099	-5	...	...	...
62	40½	Michael Page	59	...	1.8	3.8	25.1
279	115	Pennant▲	115	...	...	8.7	4.3
4½	2	Prime People▲	3½	...	...	...	...
142	57	Proudfoot Alex	63	...	...	29.8	3.5
423	337	RCO	370	...	14.1	4.8	12.7
118	86	REA	98	...	2.0	2.6	...
108	43	Reed Executive	95	...	...	5.3	23.0
156	106	Reliance Sec▲	106	...	...	1.5	26.8
238	178	Rentokil	215	+3	2.5	3.2	16.4
380	220	Rolfe & Nolan	290 †	-12	...	3.0	21.6
399	319	Salvesen (C)	325 †	+3	...	2.9	11.2
39	26	Scott Pickford▲	35	...	...	...	...
10	5	Select Appt▲	7½	...	...	...	...
1278	665	Serco Gp	1260	...	13.3	1.3	34.9
352	83	Sherwd Comp▲	104	...	...	8.4	3.0
130	90	Sketchley	99	...	...	3.8	22.8
355	310	Warner Howrd	325	...	6.6	2.6	17.0
45	27	Welpac	28	...	...	...	...
28	14	Wills Gp	25½	...	...	2.0	17.8

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	210	Allied Colloids	230	...	...	2.6	21.1
993	613	Amersham	993	+7	...	1.7	28.6
7	1½	Anglo Uid	2	...	...	...	...
£113½	8325	BASF DM	£109½	-209½	...	6.0	...
301	199	BTP	300 †	+1	...	4.0	20.7
£140½	£101½	Bayer DM50	£136½	-409½	...	4.0	...
178	118	Blagden	121	...	6.5	6.7	13.0
165	93	Brent Chems	118	...	...	7.8	10.8
530	345	Br Bio-Tech	359	-4	...	...	...
29	5	Caird Gp	5½	...	...	22.2	15.3
180	126	Canning (W)	146	...	7.2	6.3	18.6
608	421	Courtaulds	474	+12	...	3.7	11.9
347	228	Croda	331	-7	...	3.0	19.0
149	116	Doeflex	116	-3	4.6	5.0	8.9
256	175	Ellis & Everard	218	...	...	4.0	20.8
42½	15½	Euro Colour	35	...	0.8	3.1	16.8
348	259	Halstead (J)	348	...	...	2.3	17.2
241	150	Hickson	175	+5	...	5.7	10.2
£118	8850	Hoechst	£112½	-225	...	3.2	...
229	167	Holliday Chem	167	-1	...	2.8	15.4
777	608	ICI	740	-8	...	4.6	...
698	576	Laporte	697	+2	19.9	3.6	19.2
230	181	Leigh	193 †	...	...	5.1	18.6
97½	35	MTM	48	...	...	...	...
2050	1462½	Norsk Hydro	1900	...	...	1.5	27.0
464	390	Paterson Zoch	451	...	...	3.5	15.2
420	360	-do- 'A'	405	...	...	3.9	13.7
206	199	Plysu	201	...	...	4.4	13.1
303	173	Porvair	253	...	3.8	1.9	27.1
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	47	...	...	...	...
483	412	Wardle Storeys	430	+2	...	5.0	19.9
550	395	Wolstnhlme R	548	...	17.0	3.9	18.7
425	330	Yorks Chem	395	...	...	2.5	21.3
300	223	Yule Catto	259	...	...	2.9	16.1
799	593	Zeneca	780	+3	...	4.4	46.1

DRAPERY, STORES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	66	...	...	5.7	...
87	42	Amber Day	62	+1	1.3	2.7	∞
373	257	Argos Plc	368	+2	...	2.4	31.4
25	9½	Ashley Group	11	...	...	2.1	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	81	-3	0.1	0.2	...
330	278	Asprey	309 †	...	5.2	2.1	19.9
154	94	Austin Reed	151	...	...	2.1	...
155	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	148	...	...	5.2	14.9
121	94	Bentalls	110	...	1.9	2.2	...
278	132	Betterware	149	...	...	1.8	17.8
47	22	Blacks Leis	38 †	...	2.2	7.4	...
222	133	Body Shop	215	+1	...	1.0	27.7
16½	9½	Brown & Jackson	10½	+½	...	0.9	5.5
434	318	Brown (N)	423	...	...	2.2	24.8
87½	61	Burton	61½	-1	2.0	4.1	∞
195	126	Caters	185	...	4.0	2.6	∞
360	295	Church	334	...	12.5	4.7	29.7
183	97	Clinton Cards	152	-1	4.3	3.6	18.3
280½	212	Coats Viyella	266	-1	...	3.5	36.8
112	78	Colourvision▲	83	...	5.6	8.4	14.9
181	154	C'ry Casuals	157	...	...	3.3	14.6
935	374	Courts Furnish	888	+3	5.6	0.8	11.1
155	115	Crown Eye▲	140 †	+5	...	6.7	9.6
130	89	Dairy Farm Intl	114	-2	...	3.2	16.7
95	51½	Dewhirst (IJ)	93	+1½	0.8	1.1	29.9
293	189	Dixons Grp	284	-1	...	2.7	...
21	8	ERA Gp	8½	...	...	...	69.7
530	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	530	...	16.0	3.8	18.2
166	71	Essex Furn	150	...	...	2.9	24.0
273	203	Etam	230	...	7.0	3.8	21.1
608	499	Fine Art Dev	544 †	-4	11.0	3.0	17.7
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	47	...	...	...	...
623	498	Forminster	623	...	14.0	2.8	11.3
180	24	French Conn▲	118	...	...	...	...
74	43	Gent SR	66	...	...	4.0	20.5
78	23	Goldsmiths Gp	76	...	0.3	0.5	...
600	334	GUS	593	+6	...	2.5	18.2
40	23	Hampden Grp▲	23	...	...	5.4	11.4
277	30	Hartstone	53	+3	...	...	...
32½	20	Helene Plc	32½	+2½	2.0	7.7	13.4
89	29	Heritage▲	88	...	...	...	...
79	35	Honeysuckle▲	66	...	...	4.3	∞
161	63	Jacques Vert	152	...	...	2.5	11.6
751½	496	Kingfisher	719	-12	...	2.4	24.8
74	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	73	...	4.0	6.8	15.0
685	495	Liberty	535	-10	7.2	1.7	68.0
327	241	Lloyds Chem	327	+10	...	2.8	11.5
152	120	MFI	147	-1	...	3.3	30.9
457	311	Marks Spencer	444	-2	...	2.4	22.7
580	445	Menzies (John)	568	-1	...	2.4	16.1
253	135	Moss Bros	223	+1	5.5	3.0	27.4
212	139½	Next	208	...	3.5	2.1	24.8
41	15	Oliver (G)	38	...	...	...	...
325	197	Oriflame Intl	334	...	...	5.8	15.7
63	34½	Pennus	34½	...	0.8	2.9	7.2
313	185	QS Hldgs	220	...	5.1	2.9	15.7
69½	20½	Rhino Grp▲	67	+3	...	...	...
170	120	Rosebys	170	...	...	3.6	20.4
181	135	Sherwood Gp	147	...	...	2.2	13.2
131½	93	Sears	126	+1	...	3.5	...
41½	11	Signet Group	17½	+½	...	...	...
514	400	Smith WH 'A'	507	-3	...	3.5	16.6
20	4½	Specialeyes▲	17	...	...	...	...
233	176	Storehouse	229	-3	...	2.8	22.4
191	147	T & S Stores	147	-2	6.0	5.1	10.9
162	71	Tie Rack	153	+1	1.0	0.8	25.0
239	160	Time Products	232	...	7.7	4.2	20.0
128	63	Usher (Frank)▲	108	...	...	6.9	9.3
364	302	Vendome	356	...	...	2.2	16.6
45	27	Vivat	36	...	1.0	3.5	11.1
48	34	Wensum▲	44	...	...	5.3	...
120	76	Wickes	106	...	...	0.2	48.2
78	45	Wtd of Leather▲	54	...	...	...	...
192½	142	Wyevale	173	...	...	3.1	22.9
4	2½	Xtra-vision▲	3½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	148	+1	...	4.2	14.9
275	223	Acal▲	263 †	...	...	3.1	18.3
162½	38	Acorn Comp▲	83	-3	...	...	42.1
480	385	Admiral	471	+1	5.7	1.5	19.9
170	104	Alba	163	...	...	3.7	20.3
50	19½	Alphameric	39½	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	40½	+2	0.5	1.5	∞
128	61	App Holo▲	73	...	...	...	...
43	9½	Arlen	35	...	...	...	...
86	35½	Astec	71½	+½	...	0.4	...
283	224	Beales Hunter	236	...	...	5.0	14.5
9	2	Bennett & Fount	2½	...	...	...	...
446	319	BICC	406	...	19.2	5.9	...
558	400	Blick	453	...	10.2	2.9	∞
1700	925	Borland▲	1200	...	...	...	...
379	274	Bowthorpe	379	+5	6.4	2.1	24.7
484½	376	BT	464 †	...	...	4.3	17.9
232½	150	BT P/P	211 †	+1½	...	4.3	22.2
18½	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	14½	-½	0.1	0.6	...
160	48	Burnfield	68	+1	5.7	10.6	10.8
509	334½	Cable Wireless	485 †	-3	...	2.0	25.4
27½	13½	Chloride	22½	-½	...	...	...
273	229	CML Micro▲	270	...	...	2.2	19.6
315	74	Comptr People	108	...	...	...	...
164	108½	Cray Elect	148½	-½	...	1.3	15.3
433	243	Critchley	420 †	...	...	1.4	24.2
554	414	Delta	483	+6	...	3.6	20.2
443	205	Densitron Elec	443	...	...	1.7	18.9
620	395	Domino	419	...	7.4	2.2	14.3
66	48	Dowding Mills	65	+½	...	4.8	27.8
1220	865	Dowty▲	1210	...	10.0	1.0	25.8
494	358	Electrocomps	491	+3	...	2.1	20.0
710	470	El Data Proc	535	...	5.5	1.3	∞
146	43	Electron House	135	...	2.6	2.4	29.6
30½	10½	Emess	19½	+½	0.1	0.6	...
661	442	Eurotherm	661	+12	8.5	1.6	30.1
188½	108	FKI	188	...	...	2.2	22.5
549	340	Farnell Elec	549	+3	...	1.5	29.1
91	33	Feedback▲	70 †	...	...	3.6	9.1
18	1	Ferranti	1 #	...	...	...	...
304	101	First Tech	292	+14	...	0.9	24.2
220	81	Forward Gp▲	235	...	...	2.1	21.2
22½	13½	Forward Tech	14	...	...	...	...
367½	264	GEC	313 †	-½	10.4	4.2	15.6
199	132	Graseby	147	-1	...	9.3	30.9
14	7½	Graystone	10½	...	...	...	...
53	36	Hitclare▲	41	...	...	1.5	...
169	83	INSTEM▲	135	...	...	2.9	9.7
189	118	Ind Control	150	...	...	3.7	15.1
388	320	Jones Stroud	388	...	...	2.8	15.6
105	26	Kalamazoo	99 †	...	2.7	3.4	23.0
19	8	Kembrey	12½	...	0.1	1.6	...
349	260	Kenwood App	328	-5	...	3.0	18.2
265	47	Kewill Sys▲	232	-1	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	165	...	6.0	4.5	19.6
60	16	Laser-Scan▲	19	...	...	...	...
965	122	LEMS▲	155	-3	...	0.6	21.9
300	205	Lec Refrig	280	...	9.0	4.3	...
179	129	Life Sciences	135	+1	3.7	3.5	14.6
285	164	Logica	266	+4	...	1.9	30.5
55	44	LPA Ind▲	52	...	...	8.5	14.7
259	162	MR Data Mngmn	219	-1	...	3.0	20.6
718	523	Macro 4	625	...	...	3.6	19.0
243	175½	Memtec-Sw▲	235	...	...	2.0	20.8
3013	968	Micro Focus	1015	-20	...	...	9.3
227	144	Microgen	148	...	7.2	6.1	10.1
35½	23½	Microvitec▲	31½	...	...	...	...
529	357	Misys	518	...	...	1.7	18.9
584	98	Mitel	385	...	...	...	...
153	108	MMT Comp▲	143	...	...	3.5	19.5
52	16	Molynx	38½	...	1.3	...	...
272	202	MTL Inst▲	250	...	...	1.9	18.8
165	103	Multitone Elect	140	...	3.5	3.1	25.4
240	116	Murray Enter	235	...	...	2.1	...
3206½	2612½	NYNEX	2857½	+37½	...	...	...
188	128	Neotronics	128	...	2.6	2.5	16.5
65	42	Newmark (L)	54	...	...	...	...
295	58	Norbain▲	290	...	...	0.6	22.3
75	20	Northamber	54	-1	0.6	1.4	...
15½	5	Oceonics	8	...	...	...	...
300	195	Oxford Inst	296	+1	4.6	2.0	20.3
83	48	P-E Internat'l	53	...	...	...	...
81½	29	P & P	58	+3	1.5	3.2	30.8
85	55	Peek	78	...	3.4	5.4	20.4
227	115	Pegasus▲	204	-7	...	3.9	52.4
9750	9000	Philips Fn 4%	9750	...	...	5.9	...
1437½	725	-do- Lmp Inv	1362½	-25	...	...	...
318	231	Phonelink▲	318	+1	...	...	...
290	171½	Pifco	280	...	...	1.8	23.5
280	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	270	...	...	1.9	22.6
96	63	Plasmec▲	73	...	...	5.1	6.3
120	76	Pressac	103	...	...	3.1	21.8
188	81	Pulon▲	165	...	...	1.9	43.9
261	147	Racal Elect	178 †	+7	4.2	3.0	10.6
70	40	Radamec	40	...	...	4.7	8.6
70	34	Radius▲	27	...	2.2	10.4	9.3
92	61	Real Time▲	70	-1	...	5.4	14.4
35	18	Riva▲	25	...	...	...	31.7
629	367	Sage Gp	476	-1	9.9	2.6	∞
348	222	Sanderson Elec	313	...	9.9	4.0	13.1
88	49	Scantronic	74 †	-1	3.1	5.4	20.3
181	117	Scholes Grp	156	+1	...	4.0	20.2
375	270	Sema Gp	304	...	2.9	1.2	24.7
42	26	Silverdines	40	...	...	2.9	...
55	37	Soundtracks▲	55	+1	...	5.2	18.6
2695	1737½	TDK	2350	-25	...	1.3	26.6
27	4½	TDS Circuits▲	11½	...	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	144	...	0.8	0.7	23.7
1017	809	THORN EMI	983	-9	...	4.1	22.6
152	96	Thorpe FW	132	...	...	2.5	15.4
103	26	Total Systems▲	26	-4	1.5	7.2	4.6
575	372	Tunstall	570	...	7.0	1.5	∞
295	164	Unitech	254	-1	...	3.0	60.2
11½	6	Verity	11	...	...	...	...
35	22½	Vistec▲	24½	...	...	1.9	14.0
585	367	Vodafone	571	+4	...	1.7	24.8
473	308	Volex	420 †	...	18.1	5.4	17.2
26	11	Western Selecn	20 †	...	0.2	1.6	...
290	223	Wholesale Ftgs	282	+1	11.7	5.6	22.8

ELECTRICITY

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
653	389	East Midlands	639	+2	...	4.1	11.2
661	399	Eastern Elec	654	+3	...	3.9	12.3
451	304	Hydro-Elect	435	...	...	3.4	15.1
660	404	London Elect	644	...	...	4.2	12.0
729	458	Manweb	726	+4	...	3.6	10.5
699	424½	Midlands Elec	698	+4	...	3.9	10.9
473½	273	National Power	436½	-3	...	3.2	10.8
706	440	Northern Elec.	706	+10	...	3.8	10.2
272	100	Nthn Ireland	260	+3	...	3.3	12.6
713	439	Norweb	701	...	20.8	3.7	10.8
509½	273	PowerGen	500	+5	...	2.8	13.1
455	285	Scottish Power	434	-2	...	3.4	16.0
721	436	Seeboard	712	+1	...	3.6	9.2
720	469	Sth Wales	716	+13	...	4.1	10.9
668	426	Sth Western	663	+4	...	3.8	10.5
683	406	Southern Elec	679	+7	...	3.8	8.9
669	455	Yorkshire Elec	660	+3	...	3.9	12.4

FINANCE, LAND

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	30	Aitken Hume	54	...	1.0	2.3	11.5
133	47	BWD▲	120	+1	...	3.3	20.2
101	26	Baltic Plc	99	...	...	1.3	...
628	413	Caledonia	624	...	...	3.1	23.2
1850	1025	Camellia	1825	...	...	2.1	6.8
318	243	Candover	305	...	10.4	4.3	21.6
314	71	Fleetch▲	312	+12	...	0.2	...
352	155	Govett	335	...	...	4.9	9.8
188	125	Ivory Sime	172	+5	...	4.7	16.2
7½	3	LIT	7½	+½	...	...	...
240	154	Lon Forfaitng▲	234	...	8.7	4.6	17.0
78	47	Manakin	78	+2	8.0	12.8	...
12½	5½	Nat Home Loan	9½	-½	...	...	...
52	40	Newmarket	52	...	...	...	...
341	246	Rathbone Bro	304	...	6.5	2.7	18.5
26	17	Rutland Tst	20½	...	...	4.9	12.2
340	253	S & U	313	...	10.2	4.1	11.6
83	48	Singer & Fried	78	...	...	4.8	...
1038	713	Sotheby's	985	+2	...	3.4	...
126	113	SIP Capital	115	...	3.0	3.3	47.4

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2306½	1487½	Amer Express	2081½	-28½	...	...	...
1153	835	Henderson Ad	1005	+25	...	5.2	23.2
200	82	Invesco	172	+1	...	2.2	...
282	164	Jardine Strat	266	-7	...	3.0	11.1
255	154	MAI	249	-4	...	3.5	15.8
728	389	MAM	693	+5	16.0	2.9	17.3
1025	633	M & G	958	+4	...	2.8	35.5
433	109	Smith New Crt	406	+3	...	2.2	4.0
81	45	Trio Hldgs	56	+3	...	6.7	...

FOODS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
545	455	AB Food	542½	+3½	...	3.5	11.1
77½	46½	ASDA Group	52½	+1½	1.6	3.8	12.6
322	170	Acatos & Hutch	322	+3	7.6	3.0	18.6
80	53	Albert Fisher	64	...	3.7	7.3	∞
407	246	Argyll	261½	+3½	...	5.3	9.4
230	160	Banks (S C)	218	...	9.0	5.2	9.7
402	305	Barr (AG)	310	...	6.5	2.6	15.7
85	57	Bensons Crisp▲	62	...	...	5.7	13.9
143	100	Berisford Intl	106	...	...	...	...
455	357	Booker	407	+2	...	6.7	35.3
52	35	Borthwick	49½	...	...	3.0	61.5
505	450	Brake Bros	474	...	6.3	1.7	19.7
51	38	Budgen	41	...	...	3.0	12.5
505	407	Cadbury-Schw	486	-3	...	3.5	17.2
144	78	Carrs Milling	143	...	4.3	3.8	∞
196	133	Cranswick	143	...	...	7.1	10.5
22	8½	Cullens	13	...	0.5	4.8	37.3
384	119	Dalepak	121	-3	6.0	6.2	9.5
521	424	Dalgety	490	...	...	5.5	13.4
54	27	Daniels S	50	...	...	0.6	...
257	191	Devro	249	-3	...	2.8	23.7
134	99	Everest	101	...	...	4.6	18.3
385	269	Fampak	374	...	5.7	1.9	23.0
10	3	Farringford	7	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	73	...	...	7.1	24.2
125	78	Fyffes	100	...	...	1.5	18.0
483	305	Geest	339	-1	8.1	3.0	15.3
16	7	Global▲	14	...	...	4.5	21.8
50	43	Grand Central	49	...	0.8	2.0	...
208	139	Hazlewood Fds	157 †	+4½	...	5.2	8.8
175	131	Hillsdown	152	-1	8.8	7.2	11.9
250	146	Iceland Group	157	+1	...	2.8	9.9
131	92	IJJ Group	99	...	...	6.0	10.8
853	542	Kwik Save	552	+3	...	4.1	10.0
262	144	Low (Wm)	150	...	...	7.0	5.3
83	41	Matthews (B)	75½	-½	2.3	3.9	49.4
19½	11	Merchant Retail	13	...	0.9	9.3	26.2
174	84	Morrison (W)	95	...	...	1.1	12.4
233	177	Nichols (JN)	226	...	5.5	3.1	16.4
291	209	Nthn Foods	211 †	-8½	...	5.0	10.3
20½	8	Nrthmbrn Fns▲	9	...	...	...	...
229	172	Nardin Peack	185	...	...	4.2	10.3
251	205	Park Foods	244	...	...	3.1	18.8
115	58	Perkins Food	60	...	...	9.3	6.9
114	47	PizzaExpress	106	...	...	0.6	22.4
9	1½	Regina Hlth▲	3½	...	...	...	...
584	360	Sainsbury J	431	+5	...	3.0	15.1
86	33	Senny Farm▲	73	...	...	2.6	13.1
225	90	Sims Food	92 †	...	...	8.8	17.7
439	335½	Tate & Lyle	399	...	...	4.1	10.6
273	176	Tesco	204½	-½	...	4.5	9.3
221	129	Thorntons	162	-1	...	2.8	...
183	101	Treen▲	144	...	...	3.2	16.4
410	300	Unigate	358	+7	...	5.7	11.7
437	336	Utd Biscuits	344	-5	...	5.6	21.3
24½	18½	Usborne	21	...	...	3.2	15.5
337	248	Watson & Phil	276	+2	13.2	6.0	14.4

HOTELS, CATERERS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Airtin Stk H▲	26	...	...	...	...
93½	77	City Centre Rest	82	...	1.5	2.4	19.8
252	170	Forte	248	+4	...	3.8	19.5
215	148	Friendly Hotels	149	-1	...	4.8	29.0
11½	5	Harmony Prop▲	9½	...	...	...	...
147	87	Jurys Hotel	147	...	...	4.3	11.9
232½	142	Ladbroke	155	-6	11.1	9.0	13.2
85	59	Mandarin Orntl	79	-2	...	4.3	19.6
58	44	Queens Moat	47½ #	...	...	3.7	...
99	83	-do- 7½% cvpr	85 #	...	7.5	11.0	...
2½	½	Regal Hotels▲	1½	+½	...	...	...
55	28	Resort Hotels	45 #	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
24	11½	Ryan Hotels It	18½	...	...	6.4	...
855	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	800	...	7.0	1.1	...
66	34½	Stakis	59	...	...	1.0	...

INDUSTRIALS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	22	-7	...	...	1.7
616	455	AAH	478	...	...	4.6	15.9
185	123	AIM	138	...	7.5	6.6	8.4
132	88	APV	112	...	...	6.0	...
238	81	ASW	158	...	...	4.7	...
186½	118	Adwest	158	...	...	3.7	15.2
29	10	Aerospace Eng	19	...	...	4.9	25.0
281	249	Alexprung	228 †	+4	...	2.1	17.8
189	113	Alexdra W	185	...	4.1	2.8	29.3
13½	6½	Allied Radio	7	...	...	...	...
282½	237½	Alumasc	278	...	...	2.6	16.4
48	37	Alvis	40	...	1.0	3.1	8.2
695	345	Amber Ind	685	-10	...	1.5	15.7
56	43	Amberley Gp▲	51	+2	...	2.5	...
107	75	Anagen	81	...	...	...	...
145	68	Andrews Sykes	66	...	...	3.5	...
1005	703	Antofagasta	955	+2	...	2.1	12.7
54½	37	Armour	45	...	...	4.5	10.7
170	143	Ash & Lacy	164	...	6.4	4.9	16.8
4	2½	Ass Br Eng	3½	...	...	1.8	...
541½	434	Avon Rubber	425 †	...	...	4.3	∞
268	168	Assoc Nursg▲	267	...	...	0.5	16.3
687½	503	Atlas Equip	503	...	...	5.5	12.6
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	66	...	...	...	...
196	142	BBA	194	+2	...	4.8	16.5
91	78	BLP Group▲	91	...	...	...	...
27	13	BM Gp	23	+2	0.5	3.5	...
770	590	BOC	650	-2	...	4.6	14.9
79½	50	BSG	60	...	...	0.7	20.9
526	353	BSS Group	526 †	+6	...	4.1	29.4
409½	318	BTR	336	-2	...	4.1	18.8
221	147	BWI	154	...	...	5.5	14.1
50	25½	Babcock	30½	+½	...	4.5	18.1
9	4½	Bailey (CH)	7½	...	...	...	...
289	230	Baird (Wm)	231	...	8.9	4.8	16.0
1062½	530	Barlow Rand	768½	+12½	...	4.4	∞
65	48	Baynes (Charles)	61	...	...	3.0	25.0
15	4	Beauford	4½	...	...	...	...
10	2	Beckenham▲	2½	...	...	...	...
34	15	Bedford (W)▲	28	...	...	...	...
27½	15	Benson Group	15½	...	...	2.4	11.7
707	285	Bespak	303	...	10.0	4.1	9.5
133	55	Bibby (J)	59	...	2.0	4.2	∞
312	129	Billam (J)	269	-3	5.3	2.5	13.6
41	21½	Bilston Bateman▲	30	...	...	...	...
11½	2	Bimec Ind	3½	...	...	...	...
235	118½	Birkby	235 †	...	3.7	2.0	12.2
45	29	Black Arrow	29	...	2.1	9.1	9.1
1½	½	Black & Edgtn▲	1½	...	...	...	...
253	136	Black (Peter)	250	...	3.7	1.9	22.0
590	129	Bluebird Toys▲	576	...	...	1.0	17.6
322	230	Bodycote	261	+1	...	2.5	16.7
40	23	Bogod 'A'	30	...	0.7	2.9	11.2
563	416	Boots	534½	-15½	...	3.2	21.1
61	39	Booth Inds	43	...	...	...	...
523	402	Bowater	475	...	...	3.1	19.8
1682	1189	Bowater Inc	1577	-28	...	...	...
279	199	Boxmore Intl▲	244	+1	...	1.9	18.3
19	12½	Brasway	16	...	...	4.0	...
303	204	Bemner	280	...	13.0	5.6	21.6
27	12	Bridgend Gp	23	...	0.4	...	...
125	64	Bridon	122	...	...	4.1	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	72	+1	...	4.3	...
48	31	Brierley Inv	47	...	...	7.2	11.4
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	190	...	8.0	5.3	∞
102	42	Br Bloodstock▲	102	...	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	418	...	...	3.1	15.0
135½	54	Br Steel	131	-3	...	1.4	...
180	80	Br Syphon	85	...	...	4.4	23.8
186	115	Br Thornton	186	+7	...	1.7	20.3
268	215	Br Vita	240	...	7.3	3.8	14.8
15½	5½	Brixton Grp	13½	...	...	1.7	...
805	555	Broken Hill	749	-5	...	2.4	35.3
112	78	Bromsgrve Ind	91½	+½	...	6.0	11.9
10½	6½	Brooke Tool	9	...	...	...	...
73	36	Brown & Tawse	38	...	...	...	...
132	91	Bullough	131	...	6.0	5.8	22.4
24	11½	Business Tech▲	15	+2	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	15	...	0.5	4.8	14.4
42	11	Campbell & Arm	38	...	...	...	...
39	6½	Cannon St	32½	...	...	...	...
260	205	Cape	254 †	...	...	5.2	17.2
377	254	Caradon	369	+2	...	3.0	29.8
182½	128	-do- pf	181	...	7.2	5.0	...
257	178	Carclo Eng	257	...	8.6	4.2	18.3
2888	2125	Carnaud Mtl	2125	...	...	2.9	∞
78	66	Cassidy Bros▲	78	...	...	3.8	12.8
225	158	Castings	221 †	+1	4.6	2.6	15.7
71	53	Cathay Intl.	64	-1	...	1.7	20.3
195	113	Chamberlin Hill	170	...	6.5	4.8	10.6
753	605	Charter	711 †	+1	...	2.9	10.9
345	220	Chemring	315	...	...	3.3	19.0
92	45	Chieftain Gp▲	48	...	4.5	11.7	10.3
45½	15½	Chillington	38	...	1.0	3.4	...
227	144	Christies Int	227	+11	...	0.8	58.3
68	34	Claybithe	68	...	...	4.6	...
95	55	Clayton Son	55	...	...	...	...
7	7	Co Designers▲	7 #	...	...	...	...
405	295	Cohen (A)	405	...	3.4	1.1	...
242	179	Community H	242	...	...	3.6	16.5
246	185½	Concentric	198 †	+2	5.8	3.7	∞
288	120	Cook (Wm)	255	...	6.0	2.9	15.4
230	182	Cookson	217	+4	...	3.5	28.7
80	38	Copymore▲	80	...	...	1.6	24.4
238	130	Crowl Ptr 'A'	151	...	...	4.7	20.4
178	92	Cosalt	113 †	...	5.3	5.9	∞
234	150	Creighton Nt▲	230 †	+2	...	4.2	15.8
48	27	CrestaCare	36	-1½	0.6	2.3	31.1
3950½	2907½	Dana	3075 †	-25	...	...	...
313	78½	Danka Br Sys	281	...	...	0.7	26.7
243	193	David Brown	230	-2	...	3.3	16.3
22	5	Davies (DY)▲	18	...	...	...	...
830	632	De La Rue	815	...	...	2.9	19.6
38	16	Dinkie Heel	37	...	1.1	3.7	29.5
574	391	Diploma	554	...	12.0	2.7	∞
89	50	Dobson Park	87 †	+1½	3.7	5.4	∞
119	92	Dyson (J&J)	114	...	5.0	5.5	21.0
83	57	-do- 'A'	81	...	5.0	7.7	14.9
16½	8	EFG	14	...	...	...	...
440	367	EIS	395	-6	...	3.8	15.6
28	19	Eltief	22	...	...	...	...
50	19	Elsco	48	...	...	...	0.00
2537½	1750	Electrolux 'B'	2262½	-12½	...	2.3	...
73	43	Elliott (B)	66	...	...	...	...
475	394	Eng China Cl	409	-1	...	6.1	23.8
140	111	Environed	125	...	...	...	∞
3962½	1350	Ericsson 'B'	2712½	+62½	...	1.1	...
77	32	Eurocopy	77	+2	1.7	2.8	∞
87	47	Expamet	65	-1	...	4.6	15
717	499	Fairey Group	668	-1	10.7	2.0	20.6
121	47	Fenner	117	...	...	...	...
78	32	Ferrads Group	78 †	...	2.0	3.2	∞
3	½	Ferrumet▲	3	...	...	...	...
29	13	Ferruma	14	...	1.4	12.5	9.8
60	28	Ffle Indmar	61	...	...	3.6	...
251	102	Fisons	109	-4	...	10.0	10.1
33	29	Fitzwilton	31	...	...	8.6	...
288	215	Flogas	253	...	...	3.8	11.6
43	33	Folkes Group nv	33	...	1.5	5.7	18.7
93	56	French (Thomas)	93	...	3.6	4.9	46.6
234	162	Frost Group	233	+2	...	2.4	30.2
88	70	GEI Intl	76	...	...	4.1	...
513	434	GKN	490	...	...	5.2	32.7
51	42	GR Hldgs	46	...	...	4.9	...
101	79	Garton Eng	92	...	4.1	5.6	...
161	103	Gestetner	132	...	8.2	7.8	5.8
68	23	Glevel	48	...	...	...	34.7
801	509	Glaxo	688½	+2½	...	4.0	18.0
38½	16	Glenchewton	38½	+½	...	...	...
341	245	Glynwed	341	+4	11.6	4.3	32.1
129	66	Goode Durrant	125	...	...	5.4	...
156	102	Grampian Hd	156	+2	5.5	4.4	27.1
508	341	Granada	501	+6	...	2.2	20.5
455	301	Great Sthrn▲	454	...	...	3.1	18.7
117	73	Green (Ernst)▲	81	...	...	10.8	12.3
15½	8½	Greenacre▲	14½	...	...	2.6	14.3
17	5	Guardian Grp▲	6	...	...	...	...
68	30½	Haden MacLn	68	...	...	3.7	24.5
94	44	Hadleigh Inds▲	92 †	...	...	1.4	...
290	115	Hall Eng	265	-2	8.6	4.1	22.1
229	161	Halma	220	+6	...	1.2	29.4
53	30	Hampson Ind	50	...	1.6	4.0	16.5
289½	222	Hanson	263½	...	...	5.4	19.5
221	147	Harris (Philip)	147 †	...	...	5.8	8.9
205	147	Harrisn Crsfld	204	+4	9.0	5.5	29.4
123	38	Havelock Euro	116	...	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	38	...	...	...	...
30	17	Headway	29	...	...	3.0	...
13½	3½	Healthcare	3½	-½	...	28.6	0.9
426	301	Hepworth	425	+17	14.8	4.4	18.3
228	180	Hewitt (J)	205	...	3.2	2.0	16.0
57½	15	High-Point	53	...	0.5	1.2	...
167	112½	Hill & Smith	165	...	...	4.3	23.0
19½	6½	Hobson▲	16	...	...	...	77.0
176	87	Holders Tech▲	172	...	...	4.4	22.4
52	30	Hopkinsons	45	...	0.9	2.5	34.0
188	133	Hornby▲	186	...	...	6.0	17.6
88	54½	Howden	76	...	2.2	3.6	14.0
260	173	Hunting	217	-1	...	5.8	18.3
503	269½	Huntigh Tec▲	470	+2	...	2.7	12.0
312	247	IMI	306	+1	...	4.1	27.1
119	90	IEA Intl	114	...	1.5	1.7	17.7
205	131	Imercare Gp▲	136	...	...	2.5	14.4
286	235	Isotron	280	...	4.3	1.9	16.3
665	360	Jardine Math	596	-28	...	2.1	21.6
537	425	Johnson Matth	502 †	+1	...	2.6	19.6
64	35½	Johnson & FB	39½	...	1.3	4.6	∞
177	104	Johnston	162	-2	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	24	...	...	...	...
35	18	Jourdan (T)	29	...	0.7	3.2	...
178	73	Kalon	157	-2	...	2.8	21.8
297	195	Kelsey Ind	255	+5	8.0	3.9	...
690	465	Kershaw (A)	680	...	22.0	4.9	35.8
255	75	Kleeneze	243	...	1.0	0.5	∞
161	61	LGW▲	156	...	3.4	2.8	12.9
351	266	Laird	335	...	...	3.9	16.5
157½	103	Lilleshall	143	...	...	3.8	18.8
223	97	Lincat▲	204	...	...	3.7	14.4
33½	4½	Lincoln Hse▲	31	...	...	...	25.5
128	76	Linread	95	...	3.8	5.0	14.7
315	170	Linton Park	315	...	...	5.6	11.4
15½	9½	Lionheart	10½	...	0.2	2.4	...
22½	15	Locker (T) A	17	...	0.8	6.3	24.7
124	97	Lon Intl	117	+2	6.2	6.7	...
144	70	Lonrho	134	-2	4.0	3.7	...
388	269	Low & Bonar	343	+1	...	3.4	48.0
41	14½	ML Hldgs	40	...	...	...	...
56	27	MS Intl	53	...	...	5.9	54.6
59	39	MY Holdings	49	...	...	3.3	∞
218	168	Macfarlane	218	...	...	1.9	24.7
460	379	McKechnie	445	-1	14.7	4.1	∞
123	85	McLeod Russel	115	-2	...	6.6	17.0
106	63	Magnolia	100	...	0.1	0.1	16.1
132	71	Mang Bronze	132	...	2.5	2.4	∞
29½	19½	Marling	20½	...	...	3.2	...
211	124	Mayborn▲	211	...	...	3.1	16.2
62	29	Mayflower	53	...	...	1.1	44.3
236	85	Medeva	134	-1	...	2.2	10.9
118	88	Meggitt	94½	+½	...	5.1	16.1
125	98	Metair	114	...	...	4.1	18.6
154	124	Metrotect	125 †	...	...	3.2	17.4
98	70	Metsec▲	96	...	...	...	...
90	29	Midsmes	87	+1	...	1.1	12.1
28½	14	Mining & Ald	28½	+½	0.7	3.4	∞
543	368	Molins	543	+5	...	3.3	13.0
345	262	Morgan Cble	345	+9	...	4.6	18.1
184	134	Morris Ashby▲	177	...	...	4.1	13.3
38	18	Neepsend	34	...	1.0	3.7	45.6
73	34	Nestor-BNA	61	...	3.1	6.5	14.6
199	122	Nobo Gp	197	...	4.8	3.0	19.4
184	122½	Noxcros	184	+2	...	4.8	26.4
51	35	Nova Group	38	...	...	4.3	12.2
413	310	Nu-Swift	348	+10	...	...	∞
81	36	Office Elec Mac	58	...	...	...	...
56	21	OMI Intl	53½	...	...	4.1	...
162	123	PCT▲	161	...	...	5.6	18.3
91	36	Pacer Systems▲	90	...	...	4.8	...
138	87½	Pendland	101	-½	...	3.2	13.7
385	280	Photo-Me	309	...	4.6	1.9	20.0
173	97½	Pilkington	164 †	-½	...	2.0	...
93	68	Plannsbrook	91	...	3.1	4.3	14.4
154	125	Polypipe	144	+2	2.1	1.8	19.5
42	15	Porter Chadbrn	16	+1	...	3.1	7.3
14½	5½	Porth Gp▲	12	...	...	...	...
376	272	Powerscreen	285	+2	...	3.0	14.8
21½	16½	Prospect Inds	19½	...	0.8	5.3	∞
65	33½	RPS Group▲	55	...	2.3	5.2	12.2
95	73	Radiant Metal	85	...	...	...	...
180	77	Ramco Oil▲	177	-1	...	0.7	59.3
938	636	Rank Org	936	+10	31.0	4.1	25.6
33	13	Ransomes	13	...	...	...	...
690	532	Reckitt Colm	645	+1	...	3.2	14.9
77	50	Record	70	...	3.6	6.4	34.4
7½	2½	Reece	3½	...	...	...	...
269	131	Relyon	264	...	5.0	2.4	31.7
308	208	Renishaw	295	...	...	2.8	35.1
122	95	Renold	117	...	...	1.8	...
1779	1240	Reuters	1752	-12	23.1	1.6	29.0
83	24½	Rexmore	75	...	2.0	3.4	...
188	91	Ricardo Group	177	...	...	4.0	25.1
76	58	Richard (Leics)	69	...	3.7	6.8	...
98	63	Richardson West	82	...	3.0	4.6	21.0
142	109	Ropner	122	...	8.2	8.5	17.3
136	97	-do- 'A'	118	...	8.2	8.7	16.7
38	14	Ross Gp	18	+½	0.6	4.5	7.4
184	131½	Rotork	167	-1	...	2.8	19.5
167	89	Rubicon	165	...	...	3.3	23.2
66	43	Russell (A)	62	...	...	1.0	...
34	15	SEP Indl	31 †	...	0.8	3.3	∞
1087½	625	SKF 'B'	1062½	+12½	...	0.6	...
60½	39	Saville Grdn (J)	59	...	...	4.7	28.4
248	205	Scapa	215 †	...	...	3.3	16.0
238	184	Scholl	184	...	...	4.3	13.4
6½	4	Scot Heritable	5 #	...	...	...	...
323	277	Scotia	287	...	...	...	...
1123	917	Securicor	1123	+3	2.6	0.3	42.7
860	562	-do- 'A'	860	+5	2.6	0.4	32.7
750	465	Security Serv	750	+5	5.1	0.9	37.1
126½	77	Senior Eng	117½	+½	...	3.4	19.6
361	278	Seton Health	323	+1	...	2.1	19.1
68	42	Sheldon Jones▲	44	-2	...	...	...
166	88	Shiloh	136	...	3.0	2.8	14.7
344	271	Sidlaw	277	+2	...	4.7	13.7
587	427	Siebe	572	+1	...	2.3	20.0
383	220	Silentnight	353	...	...	2.8	19.1
154	102	Sime Darby	154	...	...	3.5	∞
142	32	Simon Eng	101	+4	...	...	...
259	180	Sinclair (Wm)	188	...	...	4.7	14.6
47	35	Six Hundred	36	...	...	5.2	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	145	-½	...	4.1	16.1
513	373	SmithKline	377	+2	9.6	3.2	13.6
450	340	Smithkline Uts	346	-1	...	3.5	11.7
443	330	Smiths Ind	439	-1	...	3.4	17.6
140	58	Slim Bus	74	...	3.5	5.9	7.0
466	265	Spandex▲	466	...	...	1.8	20.7
660	300	Spear (JW)	530	...	4.5	1.1	9.5
376	314	Spirax-Sarco	337	...	...	3.4	21.3
145	44	Spring Ram	53	...	...	0.6	16.1
270	201	Staveley	207	-2	...	5.1	11.7
189	126	Sterling Ind	188	...	...	4.0	28.5
187	97	Suter	174	+1	9.0	6.5	18.2
535	244	Swire Pacfc 'A'	516	-8	...	1.7	∞
7	1	Sycamore	1½	...	...	...	...
78	53	Sykes-Pick	53	...	...	7.3	10.1
158	120	Syltone	158	...	...	3.8	20.8
397	279	TI	394	+4	...	3.4	26.9
32	12	TLS Range▲	29	+2	...	1.1	...
337	211	TT Group	325	+1	...	2.5	20.0
237	201	Talarc	229	+1	...	1.0	20.0
868	618	Takeda Chem	716	-3	...	0.9	13.6
68	34	Tex Hldgs	61	...	...	...	...
109	70	Tinsley (E)▲	97	...	...	7.0	14.9
240	150	Titan▲	221	...	...	2.4	∞
271	212½	Tomkins	234	+3	...	3.4	17.2
112	67	Trafalgar H	77½	-10	...	3.4	...
116	61	Transfer Tech	68 †	+6	3.2	5.9	8.6
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	131	+1	...	6.8	15.5
275	214	UniChem	274	...	6.4	2.9	17.9
375	275½	Unidare	365	...	...	3.5	∞
76	11½	Unigroup	37	...	...	...	...
1349	936	Unilever	1168	-6	22.2	2.4	15.9
8112½	6362½	Unilever (NV)	6425	-1409½	...	3.3	10.6
24½	9	Utd Inds	9½	...	...	...	...
915	513	VSEL	804	...	...	4.7	8.7
12½	6½	Versan	12	...	...	...	...
164	95½	Vickers	160	...	...	1.8	...
307	243	Victaulic	283	...	...	3.7	13.0
454	283	Vinten	445	+1	...	2.0	20.7
694	427	Vosper Thorny	652	...	...	3.1	15.8
48	38	WSP Hldgs	38	...	...	8.9	9.9
468	368	Wagon Ind	449	-1	...	4.9	19.5
8½	1½	Wakebourne	1½	...	...	...	8.2
99	71	Walker Greenbk	99	+1½	3.1	3.9	25.3
258	201	Wassall	250	-2	2.7	1.4	25.2
45	22	Watford Wdgwd	44	...	...	...	...
384	252	Weir	283	-1	...	2.7	16.0
993	600	Wellcome	634	-5	...	3.4	13.5
23½	16	Wellman	20½	+½	0.9	5.5	33.5
358	260	West Hitheare	333	...	...	1.4	21.4
510	460	Whatman	470	-10	9.7	2.6	15.9
353	224	Whessoe	228	-27	8.2	4.6	∞
89	27	Whitecroft	89	+1	...	...	...
10½	4½	Widney	10½	...	...	...	...
130	44	Wilkes (James)	120	...	3.5	...	35.1
365	295½	Williams Hldg	348	...	12.5	4.5	18.2
46½	17	Wilshaw	41	...	...	1.7	25.8
820	533	Wolseley	820 †	+8	...	2.0	24.5
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
46	35	Wyko	40	...	...	3.1	...
59	38	Young (H)	55 †	...	3.3	7.5	∞

INSURANCE

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1903½	1192½	Alex & Alex	1231½	-6½	...	5.4	...
2406½	1787½	Am Gen	1887½	-6½	...	3.9	...
64	30	Archer (AJ)	64	+1	2.7	5.3	31.1
183	133	Berry Bch Nhl▲	167	...	...	4.0	12.9
148	118	Bradstock	143	...	5.2	4.5	17.6
498	359½	Britannic	445	-4	...	3.3	...
667	556	Com Union	641	-6	...	4.7	...
1750	1225	Dom & Gen	1743	...	...	1.6	23.0
50	18	FAI	45	...	...	...	...
741	546	Gen Accident	706	-18	26.7	4.7	...
230	160	GRE	212	-5	7.1	4.2	17.6
412	293	Heath C E	371	-4	...	5.4	...
228	153	Hogg Gp	153	...	8.1	6.7	13.0
215	162	JIB Group	171	-1	...	5.5	17.5
546	408½	Legal & Gen	515	-11	...	4.7	31.3
1131	788	Liberty Life	1075	-25	...	9.8	21.0
468	403	Lloyds Abbey	423	-2	17.3	5.1	15.2
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	277	...	6.7	3.0	17.2
395	224	Londn & Man	381	-5	14.7	4.8	28.1
443	321	Lowndes Lmb	433 †	-1	14.0	4.0	15.6
6743½	5262½	Marsh McLn	5287½	+25	...	3.4	...
130	76	Octel	122	...	...	5.1	...
72	50½	PWS	71	...	4.0	7.0	10.3
376	282½	Prudential	347	-6	...	4.4	23.0
379½	266½	Refuge	335 †	-2	...	4.0	9.3
347	248	Royal	311	-12	...	2.6	...
304	150	Sedgwick	179	-7	...	4.2	22.1
261	119	Steel Burrill	129	-6	...	11.6	7.6
89	48	Stange Hldgs	68	...	3.0	5.7	∞
400	307	Sun Alliance	365	-8	14.2	4.9	...
88	50	Trade Indemnity	85	...	...	...	...
333	239	Transatlantic	333	+6	12.0	4.5	30.9
773	499	Utd Friendly	585	-20	15.1	3.2	25.5
243	171	Willis Corroon	219	-6	...	3.8	47.1
21	13½	Windsor	20	...	...	...	15.7

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1853	1549	Alliance	1849	+4	45.5	3.1	40.5
283½	226½	Amer Trust	276	...	5.2	2.4	57.3
428	304	Ang & O'seas	427	+4	6.8	2.0	54.2
158½	134	BZW Conv	156½ †	...	7.8	6.2	18.3
198	133½	Bankers	197½	+1	3.6	2.3	54.3
344	264	Baring Tribne	344	+2	6.4	2.3	54.4
205	131	Berry Starq	203	...	2.2	1.4	66.0
111½	96½	Br Assets	111	...	...	4.8	26.4
87	57½	Br Empire Sec	87	+½	...	1.3	74.1
31	14	-do- Wnts	31	...	...	...	...
208	156	Br Inv	207	...	4.6	2.8	46.7
207	130	Contl Asset	207	...	2.4	1.4	68.9
195	143	Derby Inc	153	...	...	11.6	9.2
303	195	-do- Cap	263	...	...	...	...
91	62	Drayton Blue	89 †	+1	8.4	11.8	9.9
85	35	-do- Eng Intl	83	...	1.0	1.5	...
135	84	-do- Far East	132	...	0.6	0.6	...
145	95	-do- Korea	145	+1	0.5	0.4	...
777	576	Dunedin Inc G	716	...	...	4.5	32.9
100	76	-do- Japan	85	-1	...	...	...
55	34	-do- Warrants	44	...	...	...	...
738	513	-do- Wwide	728 †	+4	9.5	1.6	∞
282	222	Dundee & Lon	286 †	...	9.0	3.9	∞
323½	250½	Edinburgh	322	+3	8.5	3.3	35.2
292	183	Electra Inv	291	+1	6.8	2.9	39.7
191	141	Electric Gen	188	...	3.1	2.1	58.6
115	85	English Scot	114	-1	...	...	...
325	205	European Asset	325	+1	...	2.2	42.2
135	77	Finsbury 'A'	135	+3	3.0	2.8	43.4
312	248	Fleming Amer	311	+2	0.8	0.3	...
230	190½	-do- Claver	230	+1	...	2.9	45.3
340	212	-do- Contl	333	...	2.7	1.0	...
211½	147	-do- Entp	211	+1	...	2.8	42.6
398	213	-do- F East	398	+8	1.1	0.3	...
345	246	-do- Fledg	345	...	3.0	1.1	...
118	93	-do- Hi Inc	117	+1	...	4.7	20.0
260	136	-do- Japan	220	+2	...	0.3	...
294	250	-do- Merc	293 †	...	6.7	2.9	62.7
307	212	-do- O'seas	302	+2	4.2	1.7	63.2
279	203	Foreign & Col	278	+½	...	1.6	75.7
123	56½	-do- Emg Mkts	122	...	0.2	0.3	∞
68	44	-do- Enterprise	66	...	0.4	0.8	...
233	164	-do- Eurotst	227	...	...	0.7	...
131	87	-do- German	129	+1	0.5	0.5	...
323	191	-do- Pacific	323	+1	...	0.6	...
168½	116	-do- Smaller	166	...	1.8	1.4	...
272	145	GT Japan	252	+2	...	0.6	...
174	65	Genl Cons Cap	172	-2	...	...	...
123½	96½	-do- Inc	111	...	...	9.5	11.5
167	115	Govett Am Smlr	167	+1	...	...	...
132	94	-do- Emg Mkts	132	...	...	...	...
367½	184	-do- Oriental	367½	+4½	0.9	0.3	...
286	207	-do- Strategy	278	+2	...	3.0	38.8
415	340	Greenfriar	415	+2	...	1.9	62.5
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
150	124	Inv Cap	148	-1	...	4.3	28.4
99	77	IHS UK Smlr	98	+2	2.8	3.6	27.3
216	156½	Kleinwort Chrt	216	+2	5.0	2.9	42.0
250	176	-do- O'seas	241	+1	3.3	1.7	66.5
142	108	-do- Smlr	138	...	...	3.2	33.5
730	540	Law Debenture	729	+1	18.3	3.2	36.4
207	164	Majedie	207	+1	...	3.0	38.7
293	221	Merchants	292½	+1	...	4.7	27.2
3343½	1850	Merrill Lynch	3137½	-6½	...	...	...
535	383	Monks Inv Tst	535 †	+5	...	1.6	67.8
146	108	Morg Gren Inc	146	+1	4.5	3.9	∞
54	23	Do Warrants	53	...	...	...	...
60	39	Murray Euro	59	-1	0.1	0.3	...
23½	4½	Do Wts	20½	...	...	...	...
373	282	Murray Incme	370 †	-1	10.9	3.7	35.3
370	265	-do- Intl	369	+2	11.6	3.9	33.3
469	263	-do- Small	469	+6	...	1.1	...
103	86½	-do- S/C Inc	88	...	...	15.1	∞
135	73	-do- S/C Cap	129	+1	...	...	...
3150	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3150	...	...	4.2	∞
159½	142½	-do- S/C DP	159	-½	...	...	...
320	230	-do- Vent	320	+3	...	4.3	25.9
93	68	Nwthrog Inc	92	...	6.7	9.3	17.0
351	249	O'seas Inv Tst	351	+3	...	1.1	...
575	285	Pacific Assets	575	+10	1.1	0.2	...
482	187	Do Warrants	482	+10	...	...	...
8300	7650	Personal Assets	8300	...	190	2.9	49.0
171	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	170	...	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	River & Merc	122	+1	9.2	9.4	12.2
465	380	Robeco	418	...	...	3.0	...
435	346	Rolinco	425	...	...	1.8	...
287	214	St Andrew Inv	287	+1	7.5	3.3	38.6
164	131	Scot American	167½	...	...	3.5	34.6
320	136	Scot Asian	320	...	...	...	...
875	225	do Warrants	875	...	...	...	...
85½	63½	-do- Eastern	83½	-1½	1.5	2.3	54.9
236	183	Scottish	233½	-½	4.9	2.7	∞
237	178	-do- Mrge	235	...	4.0	2.1	61.0
107½	71	-do- Value	107½	+1	1.8	2.1	∞
1653	1390	Second Alnce	1645	+1	...	3.0	41.4
95	74½	Secs Tst of Scot	94	-½	3.2	4.3	31.1
163	109½	Selective Asset	162	+1	1.2	0.9	58.3
39	14	Sphere Inv	39	...	3.1	9.9	12.6
182	112	TR Far East	181	...	...	3.5	34.5
162½	126	TR City Of Lon	161½	...	...	3.7	35.1
211	110	TR Pacific	211	...	0.3	0.2	...
38½	17	TR Property	38½	+½	0.9	2.9	40.6
134	47	TR Tech Inv	132	+3	1.7	1.7	49.0
199	146	TR Smlr Cor	193	-1	...	2.5	44.6
373½	283	Temple Bar	373	+1	13.2	4.4	28.1
122	69	Thmtn Asian E	120½	...	0.5	0.5	...
79	54	Throgmorton	75	...	2.3	3.8	30.6
550	363	Throg Dual Cp	510	+2	...	...	...
243	178	USDC Invest	243	+1	4.5	2.3	44.7
119	76½	Value Inc Tst	118½	...	4.0	4.2	29.8
918	542	Wakbread Inv	915	...	16.5	2.3	55.1
232	181	Witan	231	+½	5.6	3.0	40.5

LEISURE

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
482	269	Airtours	470	+2	...	2.4	14.7
64	42	Abd Leis	43	...	...	8.7	14.0
465	194	Anglia TV	418	...	...	2.8	19.4
103	63	Baldwin	86	...	4.6	6.7	11.7
284	192	Barr & W 'A'	282	+5	10.0	4.8	16.9
1245	900	Boosey Hwks	1155	...	22.0	2.4	17.3
158	90	Border TV▲	141	...	...	3.2	12.6
16½	4	Brent Walker	4½	...	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scotts	125	-2	...	...	...
9	2½	Buckingham Int	5½	...	...	...	...
292	67	Campari	60	...	8.7	15.9	...
254	171	Capital Radio	254	+5	5.7	2.8	∞
887	718	Carlton Comm	884	...	...	2.7	20.8
248	158	Castle Comm▲	246	...	4.3	16.3	...
2778	1615	Central TV	2778	+23	39.0	1.8	30.3
124	61	Chrysalis	103	...	...	...	...
637	470	Compass Gp	637	+4	...	2.5	17.5
350	175	Eurocamp	210	...	9.7	5.8	8.7
1180	268	Euro Disney	390	-8	...	3.0	...
8	1½	Euro Leisure	1½	...	...	...	...
38½	18	Ex-Lands	35½	...	...	1.2	...
390	245	Fairline Boats	282	...	10.5	4.7	...
378	232	First Leisure	277	...	6.2	2.8	19.2
630	298	GWR Gp▲	630	+27	...	1.6	32.4
246	149	Grampian	230	...	6.5	3.5	15.9
22	4½	Greenwich Comm▲	15	...	...	...	...
107	19	HTV Group	107	+2	...	...	49.5
76	30	Hi-Tec Sports	56	...	...	5.0	...
12½	5½	Kunick	11½	...	...	...	...
603	405	LWT Hldgs	576	-12	...	1.1	26.6
600	327	Man Utd	532	...	...	4.6	21.5
38	7½	Northern	38	-1	...	...	...
148	59	Owners Abrd	80	...	3.9	6.1	6.4
77	33	The Pelican Gp	70	+1	...	2.0	16.4
170	55	Prism Leisure▲	170	...	...	2.4	15.8
42	16	Quadrant Grp	36	...	...	...	...
361	274	Radio Clyde▲	361	+6	...	3.3	∞
208	132	Ramsdens (H)	206	-1	...	2.7	27.3
553	410	Scot TV	465	...	10.3	2.8	22.9
67	37	Southern Radio	65	+7	1.2	2.4	∞
263	168	Stanley Leisure	263	...	4.3	2.1	20.8
10	5½	Sunleigh▲	8	...	...	...	...
145	115	Sunset & Vine	128	...	3.5	3.4	19.5
420	345½	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.9
2½	1	Ticketing▲	2½	...	...	...	...
117	84	Tottenham Hot	103	...	...	2.4	5.4
78	44	Trans World▲	75	+5	...	1.3	27.4
510	274	Ulster TV	499	+1	12.0	3.0	15.3
112	62	Vardon	112	+6	0.8	0.9	26.4
22	11	Wembley	16	...	...	...	...
234	110	Yorkshire TV	165	+2	12.0	9.1	5.0
130	83	Zeners Gp	116	...	8.0	8.6	13.1

MINING

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
5925	1800	Am Gold	5925	+175	...	3.6	30.1
1625	1018½	Ang Am Coal	1537½	...	...	5.9	8.1
2937½	1125	Ang Am	2825	-109½	...	2.4	24.9
33	8½	Anglo Pac Res▲	29	...	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	187	-2	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	37	...	...	...	...
871	233	Buffels	810	+15	...	7.8	7.4
2½	1	Butte	2	+½	...	...	...
802	546	CRA	790	-12	...	2.5	27.2
43½	11	Cluff Res	39½	+½	...	...	...
1556½	762½	De Beers	1556½	+43½	...	3.1	21.5
165	37½	Deelkraal	138	-6	...	2.1	15.9
96	7	Doornfontein	70	...	...	...	...
913	388	Driefontein	864	+15	...	3.7	17.1
788	120	Durban	755	+19	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	156	+18	...	6.8	4.9
175	35	E Rand Prop	84	+9	...	...	...
65	16	Eastern Trans	55	...	...	4.5	11.8
604	117	Elandsrand	436	+18	...	2.7	10.7
1104	292	FS Cons	1104	+64	...	4.3	14.5
80	8	FS Dev	60	-3	...	...	...
1675	725	GFSA	1519	+31	...	2.6	26.3
112	62½	Gencor	112	+2	...	7.8	12.7
64½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	57	...	...	2.3	23.3
22½	5	Greenwich R 'A'	15	...	...	...	...
187	49	Grootvlei	164	+13	...	6.1	10.3
360	78	Harmony	352	+21	...	...	...
425	87	Hartes	406	+4	...	6.7	16.1
16½	8½	Incon▲	15½	...	...	...	...
1010	491	Impala Plat	880	+17	...	3.1	30.4
13½	6	Kenmare Res▲	8½	...	...	...	...
1158	332	Kinross	1158	+28	...	4.9	∞
913	319	Kloof	747	+37	...	1.2	10.5
137	25	Leslie	130	+14	...	8.0	∞
359	13	Loraine	359	+37	...	...	...
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.1	∞
116½	80	MIM	112	-1	...	2.0	54.6
1463	820	Minorco	1463	+133	...	2.6	17.3
158	91	Nth Brkn Hill	153	-2½	...	3.1	25.2
2812½	612½	Orange Free	2812½	+162½	...	5.9	22.8
769	607	RTZ	759	+5½	...	3.2	21.4
15½	10½	Rand Mines	15½	...	...	7.0	∞
680	150	Randfontein	680	+48	...	4.1	10.2
200	115	Renison	200	+5	...	2.2	20.7
1200	850	Rustnbrg	1150	+25	...	2.8	∞
725	191	St Helena	671	+10	...	3.5	14.3
2168	475	Southvaal	2056	+91	...	2.7	37.6
119	18	Stilfontein	83	...	...	7.5	15.1
201	58	Unisel	153	+4	...	4.3	∞
6600	1800	Vaal Reefs	6600	+300	...	3.3	11.9
730	154	Welkom	730	-40	...	5.8	22.9
640	26	Western Areas	608	-4	...	0.8	19.4
3112½	587½	Western Deep	3112½	+134½	...	2.0	15.2
292	176	Wstrn Mining	285½	-6½	...	1.7	...
1091	323	Winkels	1091	+21	...	3.5	∞
84	49	Zambia Copper	57	...	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	68	...	...	6.4	22.7

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
258	233	Abbey Panels	248	...	...	...	...
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
153	78	Appleyard	124	-1	...	5.2	...
335	203	Blenbley Mtr	303	...	...	3.8	15.4
192	120	Bostrom	180	...	6.0	4.3	31.8
468	165	Br Aerospace	408	-14	7.3	2.3	...
57	19½	Burndene	57	+1	...	2.5	15.1
425	303	Caffyns	395 †	...	11.5	3.6	79.9
15	4½	Caverdale	13½	+½	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtr▲	123	...	...	4.1	31.3
36	18	Cook (DC)▲	36 †	+1	...	3.1	20.4
271	156	Cowie (T)	270	+1	6.6	3.1	20.6
141	86	Dag Motors	136	...	5.7	5.3	24.6
155	102½	Davnpt Vern	144	...	...	3.5	18.2
330	155	ERF	314	...	2.0	0.8	...
145	92	European Mtr	136	...	...	3.4	19.1
406	208	Evans Halshaw	403	...	11.4	3.6	62.1
290	211	FR Group	339	-6	...	3.8	11.1
4312½	2843½	Ford Motor	4312½	...	...	...	...
3756½	2143½	General Mtr	3737½	-18½	...	1.4	...
75	38	Gowrings	60	...	2.0	4.2	...
264	85	Henlys	264	+5	3.5	1.7	...
1056	760	Honda Motor	909	...	...	1.0	...
36	15	Jacks (Wm)	36	...	...	...	...
108	66	Jessups	86	...	4.5	6.5	...
176	97	Kwik-Fit	161	+3	...	2.7	22.8
437	281	Lex Service	437	+3	...	3.2	23.9
164	85	Lookers	149	...	6.2	5.2	...
196	126	Lucas	199½	+1½	...	4.5	...
27½	21	Malaya Grp	25½	...	...	...	...
284	224½	Pendragon	252	+2	...	3.2	20.7
177	101½	Perry Gp	167	+1	...	5.3	...
190	108	Quicks Group	161	...	...	3.7	20.6
177	96½	Rolls-Royce	164	-3	...	3.8	...
223	164	T & N	198	...	...	6.8	28.2
259	163	Trinity Hldgs	258 †	...	...	2.7	24.1
175	125	Vardy (Reg)	170	...	...	3.2	22.6
253	121	Westland	243	+1	4.5	2.3	∞

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
198	103	Adscene	198	...	5.0	3.2	20.3
360	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	290	Blenheim Gp	315	...	...	3.7	11.7
390	275	Bristol	363 †	...	...	4.1	32.8
£109	7775	Daily Mail	£109	+375	134	1.5	24.5
£109	7700	Daily Mail 'A'	£109	+375	134	1.5	24.5
355	251	Dorling Kind	330	...	...	1.3	28.1
5800	4337½	Elsevier	5625	-46½	...	1.7	19.0
403	322	EMAP	401	-1	...	2.5	24.7
1525	873	Euromoney Pb	1500 †	...	38.0	3.2	∞
264	170	Harrington K	185	-3	4.7	3.2	15.1
325	155½	Haynes Pub	325	...	...	2.1	18.3
363	334	Hodder H'tne	344	-1	5.1	1.9	29.3
140	99	Home Counts	110	...	5.2	6.0	...
153	30	Intl Bus Comm	149	-1	...	...	21.6
14	6½	Int Cm & Data▲	12½	...	...	...	...
435	240	Independent	410	+10	...	3.1	22.1
580	395	Johnstone Press	539	...	6.5	1.5	23.3
337	243	Metal Bulletn	337	+1	8.2	3.0	23.8
186	88	Mirror Gp	156	...	...	...	...
515	297	News Corp	449	-10	...	0.3	...
301	169	News Intl	273	-4	...	0.6	16.8
603	342	Pearson	599	+2	...	2.5	32.0
675	510	Portsmth Sund	660	+18	...	1.8	18.2
827	618	Reed Int	798	-9	...	2.7	34.8
185	98	Southnews	185	...	...	1.6	34.2
171	90	Sterling Pub▲	164	...	...	2.4	19.9
425	328	Telegraph	424	...	...	3.5	17.8
835	715	Thomson Corp	795	...	30.1	4.7	39.7
418	313	Trinity Intl	418	...	9.0	2.7	25.0
39	21	Unit Group▲	21	...	...	...	...
605	480½	Utd Newspaprs	601	+7	...	4.5	16.7

OILS, GAS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	22½	...	...	...	21.9
61	33	Arcon Intl▲	34	...	...	...	...
71	41½	Aus Oil & Gas	60	...	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	63	...	...	...	...
16	3½	Beverley	5	+1½	...	...	40.7
223	145	Br Borneo	197	+1	7.1	4.5	6.0
357	276	British Gas	350½	-2	14.2	5.1	16.9
362½	225	Br Petroleum	320½	+2½	8.4	3.2	25.6
2	1	Bula Resources	1½	...	...	...	...
894	675	Burmah Castrl	806	+5	...	3.9	18.8
68	32	Cairn Energy	58	-1	...	...	8.3
317	223	Calor Gp	308	...	...	4.9	16.8
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	49	-1	...	...	...
44	27	Copley Res	38	-1	...	...	...
23½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	17	...	...	...	...
521	397	Enterprise	435	+2	19.0	5.5	23.9
88	27	Exp Co Louis	27	...	...	...	...
34½	18½	Fairhaven Intl	22½	...	...	4.8	8.1
10½	4	Fortune	4½	...	...	...	...
87	45	Goal Pet	51	...	1.4	3.4	9.8
48	18	Gt Western Res	31	-1	...	...	...
181	104½	Hardy O & G	139	...	...	0.9	12.9
46	18½	Kelt Energy	40	...	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	107	...	...	3.0	21.7
103	69	-do- Units	88	...	9.4	17.4	...
24	2½	Mid Sent Res▲	½	-2	...	...	...
58½	34	Monument	54½	...	...	...	...
9½	4	New London	4½	...	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	30	...	1.0	4.2	10.4
40	27	Oil Search	37	...	...	...	...
19½	11½	Petroz	16	...	...	...	...
162	99	Pict Pet	154	-2	...	...	...
29½	18	Premier	22½	...	...	...	8.3
168	50	Presidio	156	...	...	...	...
410	290	Ranger	333	-15	...	4.2	...
7312½	5150	Royal Dutch Ft	6887½	-75	...	4.9	...
4500	3600	Schlumberger	3050	-46½	...	4.4	17.1
67	47	Seafield	58	...	...	2.0	...
722	515	Shell	691	-6	22.8	4.1	21.3
203	173	Sunrise Eng Sv	185	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	15	-1	...	...	...
15½	6	Villiers Grp	13½	...	...	...	...
208	135	Woodside	179	...	...	2.0	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
155	120	AG Holdings	154 †	...	...	4.3	13.9
384	249	API	383 †	+3	8.2	2.7	∞
259	144	Arjo Wiggins	243	+3	...	3.3	30.3
543	408	Abbott Mead	537	...	9.5	2.2	28.2
40	13	Aegis Gp	18½	+½	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comm▲	131	...	...	4.7	11.9
20	7	BBB Design▲	18	...	...	...	...
428	234½	Bemrose	428	...	...	3.6	18.7
30½	7	Birkdale	8½	...	...	...	...
155	118	Bunzl	135	+1	4.0	3.7	20.4
352	257	CIA Gp	347	...	...	1.6	21.9
230	93	Capital Inds	132	...	...	3.4	12.6
92	44	City of Lon▲	86 †	...	...	5.6	15.9
304	169	Cropper (James)	304	...	3.2	1.3	29.4
6	6	Crown Comm▲	6 #	...	...	...	...
95	51	Delyn Group	88	...	1.6	2.4	11.8
120	94	Dolphin Pack	105	...	4.5	5.4	25.9
87	42	Dudley Jenkins▲	78	...	...	5.0	17.7
15½	10½	Elswick	14½	+½	...	2.6	16.2
74	41	Fairway Group▲	72	...	3.2	5.6	21.2
351	271	Ferguson Intl	349	...	...	4.5	15.8
130	92	Ferry Pick	130	+2	...	5.4	35.1
168	74	Filofax▲	167	...	...	1.1	21.5
20	10½	Fitch	11	...	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons▲	149 †	+4	...	4.4	16.8
295	205	Gold Greenless	205	...	8.3	5.1	14.6
41	17	Goodhead	23	-1	0.0	0.3	∞
88	32	Hunterprint	32	-2	...	...	...
185	136	Interurope	162	...	...	6.0	11.9
278	191	Jarvis Porter	272	...	...	2.2	25.4
32	15½	Lopex	24	-1	...	...	...
38½	26	MMT	34½	...	...	...	...
346	175	More O'Ferrall	331	+1	13.2	5.0	39.6
133	48	NMC Group	117	...	2.7	2.9	18.1
233	66	Osborne & Little	230 †	...	...	2.8	25.3
525	455	Portals	504	-5	...	3.7	17.4
3½	½	Premier Hlth	2	...	...	...	...
286	159	Quarto	281	...	...	2.6	17.3
347	270	St Ives Gp	311	...	...	2.2	20.5
186	142	Saatchi	148	...	...	...	...
474	292	Sappi	373	-5	...	8.7	7.1
24	8½	Serif▲	18½	+5	...	...	...
32½	14	Shandwick	24½	...	...	...	...
397	294	Smith David	371	...	...	3.4	19.4
295	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	226	...	...	1.5	6.6
96	45	Somic	96 †	...	2.5	3.3	39.4
246	183	Sun-Plus	207	...	8.4	5.1	18.5
28½	16½	Taylor Nelson	26½	+½	0.3	1.5	23.5
104	38	VTR▲	98	...	...	4.8	14.7
106	40	WPP	94	...	...	1.3	3.5
179	62	Wace	170	-3	...	0.7	...
265	203	Waddington (J)	230	...	...	4.4	17.2
410	270	Watmough	374	...	...	2.0	29.3
7	3½	Westport▲	3½	...	...	...	...
34	12	Whitney Mck▲	30	...	...	...	...
94	55	Wood (SW)	94	...	...	2.0	20.0

PROPERTY

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
116	41	Allied Lon	110	...	...	4.0	28.5
47	35	Arcadian	36	...	...	...	...
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	5½	...	...	...	...
135	52	Asda	132½	-½	...	2.0	13.9
152	88	Avonside	138	...	4.1	3.7	19.3
2637½	2062½	BCE▲	2300	-12½	...	...	...
670	396	Bilton	642	+2	18.9	3.7	23.2
110	23	Bourne End	97 #	...	...	1.7	...
239	190	Bradford	236	...	5.9	3.1	23.9
23	5	Bredero	13	...	...	...	...
449	166½	Br Land	431	-3	...	2.1	39.0
248	140½	Brixton	245	+1	...	4.3	19.4
95	42	Burford	88	...	...	1.8	...
188	99	Cap & Regnl▲	188	...	...	0.9	...
230	120	Cardiff Prop	230	...	2.4	1.3	...
595	196	Chesterfield	594	...	11.5	2.4	42.5
43	12	City Site Ests	31	...	...	...	...
35	12	Clarke Nickolls	35	...	...	...	...
548	300	Compco	300	...	12.9	5.6	65.2
53	34	Conrad Rhlar GS	45	...	...	...	...
1440	818	Daejan	1435	...	...	2.4	17.7
3½	½	Darer Estates	½	...	...	...	...
129	53	Debenham Twsn	128	...	...	2.9	24.9
12	4	De Morgan	8	...	...	...	...
180	76	Dencora	175	...	3.0	2.1	...
666	263	Derwent Hldgs	664	...	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	39½	...	...	...	...
55	24	Dwyer	35 †	+2	...	...	...
395	170	Estates Agency	395	...	...	2.4	46.9
22	7½	Estates Gen	19	...	...	...	...
216	132	Evans Of Leeds	212 †	...	...	2.8	18.7
35½	11	Five Oaks	33	...	...	...	...
65	30	Fletcher King	65	...	1.0	1.9	43.1
515	276½	Frogmore	511	...	...	3.9	24.6
237	97	Grainger	232	...	5.2	2.9	∞
233	116½	Gr Portland	230	-1	...	4.3	22.0
17	3½	Greycoat	15 †	-1	...	...	...
192	101	HK Land	186	...	...	3.4	24.5
84	35	Hambro Cntyw	67½	+½	0.5	0.9	...
413	233	Hammerson	405 †	...	10.0	3.1	41.0
298	127	Helical Bar	298	...	...	2.1	10.7
39	19	Hemingway	35½	...	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	60	...	3.7	7.8	15.1
153	133	Jermyn	138	...	...	...	...
801	435	Land Sec	792	-3	21.1	3.7	23.6
114	73	Lon Merch Sec	112	-1	4.0	4.5	17.4
22½	8½	Lon & Metro	11	...	...	...	...
565	315½	MEPC	539 †	+2	...	4.7	37.8
9	5	McInerney A	6½	...	...	...	...
160	90	McKay Secs	160	...	3.5	2.7	22.0
7½	3	Markheath	3	...	...	...	...
80	12	Merivale Mre	80	...	...	...	...
5	5	Merlin Intl	5 #	...	...	...	...
50	29	Moorfield Est	49	-1	...	...	...
1300	775	Mountview	1200	...	22.0	2.3	12.0
174	112	Mucklow (A&J)	173	...	...	4.4	26.9
46	30	Olives Prop	45	...	...	...	...
10½	1½	Ossory Est	1½	...	...	...	0.5
172	88	PSIT	165	...	4.1	3.1	32.7
359	138	Peel	358	+3	4.0	1.4	...
16	4½	Power Corp	6½	+1½	...	...	...
40	22	Property Trust	40	...	...	...	11.4
67	33	Raglan	37	+1	...	...	...
29	11	Regalian	27	...	...	...	...
135	110	Rowlinson Secs	135 †	...	1.5	1.4	36.3
50	16	St Modwen Prp	48	...	0.9	2.3	36.6
82	39	Savills	82	+1	...	1.5	32.5
112	33½	Scot Met	93	+1	...	2.0	∞
118	39	Shaftesbury	117	...	...	...	...
15½	5	Shield	11	...	...	...	5.8
281	139½	Slough Estates	279	-1	...	3.6	19.5
93	56	Southend Prop	92	...	...	3.3	...
39	16	Stanhope Prps▲	26	-½	...	...	...
226	114	Tops Ests	225	...	2.1	1.2	80.0
137	79	Town Centre	130	...	...	3.3	23.3
97	43	Trafford Park	96	...	...	3.6	22.1
56	17	UK Land	32	...	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9½	...	...	...	...
308	180	Warner	305	-2	10.4	4.3	27.9
219	168	Warnford	217	...	7.5	4.4	15.7
8	2	Waterglade	2	...	...	...	...
95	34	Wates	90	-1	...	...	...
80	40	Wood John Da	80	+1	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
29	11	Automagic▲	29	...	...	...	...
186	84	Headlam	185	...	...	2.0	41.8
500	285	Lambert	320	...	13.2	5.2	7.8
100	44	Pinards	84	...	1.5	2.9	18.3
30	20	Strong & Fisher	21	...	1.0	6.0	5.8
218	89	Stylo	217	...	...	1.7	...
66	53	UK Safety	58	...	...	5.6	1.9

TEXTILES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
521	408	Allied Text	495	...	12.7	3.2	15.9
69	54	Beckman (A)	56	...	3.5	8.0	∞
41	21	Bolton Gp	28	...	...	...	...
171	141	Br Mohair	171	...	8.5	6.2	16.0
53	15	Chartwell▲	36	...	...	...	...
364	298	Claremont Ga	341	...	7.5	2.8	21.3
601	470	Courtauld Text	473	...	13.9	3.7	12.9
53½	24½	Cupid▲	25	...	...	...	...
248½	130	Dawson	133 †	...	...	7.1	10.1
47	22	Drummond	35	...	...	...	...
84	65	Faupel▲	83	...	...	7.4	12.9
34	15	Foster (John)	22	+1	...	...	...
133	82	Gaskell	114	...	4.2	4.7	...
228	156	Hicking Pnest	225 †	...	...	2.3	15.9
90	45	Jerome (S)	67	...	...	0.4	...
422	249	Lamont	394	...	12.0	3.8	26.1
515	353½	Leeds	502 †	...	8.5	2.1	∞
64	15	Lister	54	...	0.1	0.2	...
122	73	Lyles (S)	89	...	...	4.6	...
215	89	Magellan	211	...	1.4	0.8	...
214	77½	Parkland	195	...	...	1.1	...
102½	82	Readicut	96½	...	...	4.5	18.2
69	35	SEET	51	-1	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	129	...	...	5.2	8.9
72	44	Sidling Gp	57 †	+2	1.0	4.2	15.8
51	36	Stoddard	36	...	...	5.2	33.5
312	250	Tomkinsons	278	...	11.5	5.2	∞
62½	32½	West Trust	37 #	...	...	9.2	...
250	126	Yorklyde	249	...	...	2.7	16.3

TOBACCOS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
541	407	BAT	515	...	...	4.7	15.4

TRANSPORT

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
529	349	Assoc Br Ports	522	-1	...	2.1	...
1002	707	BAA	995	-1	...	2.1	24.7
452½	249	Br Airways	437	-1	...	3.1	19.6
110	56	Clarkson (H)	101	...	1.7	2.2	...
23	23	Davies Newman	23 #	...	...	...	...
520	332	Eurotunnel Uts	511	+2	...	...	...
82	44	Fisher (James)	67	-5	0.5	0.8	18.0
227	147	IoM Steam	220	+8	...	4.6	11.9
38	24	Jacobs (JI)	33	...	0.5	1.0	...
107	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	100	...	...	1.3	18.3
453	264	Mersey Docks	453	+6	...	2.5	30.8
271	181	Natl Express	249	...	...	3.6	25.7
272	218	NFC	227	+5	...	3.9	17.6
343	244	Ocean Group	308	...	...	5.8	...
73	40	Ocean Wilson	70	...	4.0	7.1	12.7
686	504	P & O Dfd	612	-1	...	6.2	33.2
194	122	P & O 5 1/2%	169	-2	...	4.1	...
629	449	Powell Duffryn	612	...	...	4.6	23.7
225	117	Seacon▲	222	...	...	3.0	14.0
163	112	Stagecoach	152 †	+1	...	3.1	18.5
81½	31½	TNT	77	-1	...	...	...
773	624	Tibbett & Britn	760	+10	12.6	2.1	29.1
382	37	Tiphook	62	+3	...	...	...
298	227	TDG	289	-3	...	4.4	8.9

WATER

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
590	455	Anglian Water	586	+7	...	4.6	11.7
347	244	Mid Kent Hldgs	345 †	...	...	3.9	12.7
729	547	Northumbrian	728	+9	...	4.0	8.5
592	431½	North West	586 †	+12	...	4.7	9.7
661	439	Severn Trent	626 †	+9	...	4.3	9.7
661	454	Sthrn Water	660	+12	...	4.2	10.5
1605	1225	Sth Staffs	1515	...	48.5	4.0	10.8
657	465	South West	655	+11	...	4.6	10.7
584	454	Thames Water	580	+8	...	4.6	11.4
716	506	Welsh Water	713 †	+6	...	4.2	7.2
701	536	Wessex Water	700	+9	...	3.8	10.5
616	473½	Yorkshire W	616 †	+8	...	4.4	10.2

Source: Finstat

▲ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ◊ Ex all; # Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
102	100	Treas 8½% 1994	100	-	8.47	5.32
109¼	101	Treas 14½% 1994	101	-	14.22	5.31
109	103	Exch 13½% 1994	103	-	13.11	5.07
105	102½	Treas 10% 1994	102½	-	9.77	5.04
110	105	Exch 12½% 1994	105	...	11.90	4.96
105	103	Treas 9% 1994	103	...	8.68	4.90
111	107	Treas 12% 1995	107	-	11.16	4.90
97¼	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	97	...	3.07	4.63
109½	107	Exch 10¼% 1995	108	...	9.49	4.97
116½	113¼	Treas 12¾% 1995	114	...	11.18	4.97
120¼	116	Treas 14% 1996	117	...	11.90	5.04
125½	121¼	Treas 15¼% 1996	122	-	12.45	5.13
120	115½	Exch 13¼% 1996	118	...	11.21	5.14
112½	108	Conv 10% 1996	112½	...	8.88	5.27
122	118½	Treas 13¼% 1997	122	+	10.85	5.41
114	110	Exch 10½% 1997	114½	...	9.16	5.43
110½	105½	Treas 8¾% 1997	110	+	7.89	5.49
132	127	Exch 15% 1997	132½	+	11.36	5.65
114	109	Exch 9¾% 1998	114½ †	+	8.50	5.67
106½	99	Treas 7¼% 1998	106	+	6.83	5.61
106	101	Treas 7¼% B 1998	106	+	6.83	5.62
102½	97	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	102½	...	6.60	5.02
131	125	Treas 14% 1998-01	131	+	10.65	5.85
140½	133	Treas 15½% 1998	140	-	11.07	5.80
125	118½	Exch 12% 1998	125	+½	9.54	5.89
115	108	Treas 9½% 1999	115½ ‡	+	8.20	5.86

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101	98	Treas 6% 1999	101	+	6.05	5.79
128	120	Exch 12¼% 1999	128	+	9.57	5.99
121	112	Treas 10½% 1999	120	+	8.68	5.94
120	112	Conv 10¼% 1999	120½	+	8.48	6.02
115½	106	Conv 9% 2000	115	+	7.79	5.98
136	125½	Treas 13% 2000	136 †	+	9.55	6.24
105	97	Treas 7% 2001	105	-	6.69	6.16
121	108	Treas 10% 2001	121½	+	8.25	6.29
122	108½	Treas 9¾% 2002	122	+	7.99	6.41
112½	97	Treas 8% 2003	111	+	7.15	6.35
125½	109½	Treas 10% 2003	125	+	7.97	6.44
128½	116½	Treas 11½% 2001-04	128½	+	8.95	6.51
84	67	Fund 3½% 1999-04	84 xd	+	4.15	5.49
103	97½	Treas 6¾% 2004	103	+	6.53	6.31
124	105½	Conv 9½% 2004	123½	+	7.68	6.44
124½	105½	Conv 9½% 2005	123	...	7.67	6.40
142	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	141½	+	8.82	6.68
110½	94	Treas 8% 2002-06	110	-	7.26	6.46
111½	94	Treas 7¾% 2006	110	...	7.00	6.50
134½	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	134½	+	8.75	6.67
117	97	Treas 8½% 2007	117 xd	...	7.24	6.55
150	131	Treas 13½% 2004-08	149	+	9.01	6.72
123	101½	Treas 9% 2008	122	+	7.33	6.57

LONGS (over 15 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
114	92	Treas 8% 2009	113	+	7.03	6.58
125½	100½	Conv 9% 2011	124 xd	-	7.22	6.61
126½	100	Treas 9% 2012	125	-	7.18	6.60
93	70½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	92	-	5.96	6.20
113	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	112½	-	6.87	6.53
116	93	Treas 8% 2013	115	-	6.91	6.57
157	125	Exch 12% 2013-17	156½	-	7.65	6.77
126½	97	Treas 8¾% 2017	125	-	6.95	6.57

UNDATED

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
53½	38½	War Ln 3½%	53½ †	+	6.58	...
36½	27	Treas 2½%	36½	+	6.85	...

INDEX-LINKED

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
136	131½	Treas IL 2% 1994	136	+	...	...
204½	194	Treas IL 2% 1996	204½	-	0.97	1.85
113	105	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113	...	1.28	1.90
175½	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	175½	-	2.26	2.61
172	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	171½	-	2.48	2.76
116	105½	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	116½	-	2.52	2.80
182	159½	Treas IL 2% 2006	182½ †	+	2.38	2.79
166	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	166	+	2.73	2.93
173	148	Treas IL 2½% 2011	173½	+	2.80	2.97
144	122½	Treas IL 2½% 2013	143	+	2.85	2.98
155	130	Treas IL 2½% 2016	154½	+	2.89	3.03
150	124	Treas IL 2½% 2020	150½	+	2.92	3.05
126	102	Treas IL 2½% 2024	126½ †	+	2.92	3.03
126½	105½	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	126½	+	2.94	3.06

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Tidings of discomfort and war



While ITV and the BBC pack their schedules with cheer in the week before Christmas, Channel 4 is devoting several hours of prime time television to the war in Bosnia. Has Michael Grade (left) gone mad?



A graveyard for Christmas: Bill Tribe in Channel 4's Sarajevo Diary, repeated this Sunday

Do teardrops well in your eyes when you switch on the television news to see pictures of yet another bloody war? Does your brow furrow, or does your expression glaze over in bored detachment when the latest body count is read out? "... *an estimated 200,000 people killed in the civil war in former Yugoslavia since fighting broke out ...*"

Undaunted by the popular belief that most television viewers have succumbed to compassion fatigue as far as the sick and dying of far away places are concerned, Michael Grade, chief executive of Channel 4, has launched the second season of programmes in less than six months devoted to the conflict in Bosnia.

The season includes a one-hour programme presented by Jon Snow and the Channel 4 news team reviewing the year's events in Bosnia and examining the prospects of peace in 1994. There will also be an updated version of a programme first shown in August, *Sarajevo Diary*, in which the British lecturer Bill Tribe describes what is left of the city he lived in for 26 years.

To many it might seem an odd way for Channel 4 to celebrate the most successful 12 months in its 11-year history and the runaway success of its relentlessly cheerful and trivial flagship show, *The Big Breakfast*. But Michael Grade is not known for a love of the obvious.

"I'm always hearing people criticise television for picking up a subject, exploiting it and then letting it drop," he says. "Well our Bosnia season shows that we do not do that. We ran one in August and we're running another one now.

"Somewhere on British television you have to have a place that deals with a wide range of major international and social issues. That is what Channel 4 is there for. Television ceases to have any value at all if it ignores these stories, it just becomes like candy floss," he adds.

Well, Mr Grade would say that. He is, after all, unusually well placed to do so. Unlike his rivals at ITV he does not have greedy shareholders to please, and unlike the BBC he does not have to account for his choice of programming to 20 million licence fee payers.

In fact, since Channel 4 gained its independence from ITV in January, it has been able to do pretty much as it pleases. Although the split with the Independent Television Network means that Channel 4 now relies completely on selling its own advertising, its success with *The Big Breakfast* — which accounts for about 20 per cent of its airtime sales — and the continuing uncertainty which is shaking the ITV network and making advertisers nervous has allowed it considerable freedom to follow its "minority" remit to the full.

Perhaps the most surprising feature about Channel 4's attempts at "Do-good TV" is that they have worked. Its homelessness season, *Gimme Shelter*, earlier this year attracted an audience share of 12.2 per cent — Channel 4's highest ever. The first season devoted to the civil war in former Yugoslavia, *Bloody Bosnia*, in August was not such a big ratings success, but it raised £145,000 for a charity appeal from callers who rang in after the programmes.

For Mr Grade, programmes such as these have a wider importance than their particular subject matter. He is determined to demonstrate, through such scheduling, the positive role of television in British society.

"There is so much criticism of television and we are pretty much blamed for everything that goes wrong in society. Nobody ever acknowledges that television can be a force for good. We want to show them it is," he says.

Mr Grade's argument is not that television stops wars, feeds the starving, wins votes or — heaven forbid — influences behaviour. (If it did, his channel might have to stop showing extracts from violent and "anti-social" films such as *Clockwork Orange*).

Rather, he argues that as one of the most effective communicators around, television should be used to help broaden universal understanding.

Of course, it does sound a little like special pleading. If anyone doubts Mr Grade's sincerity, however, few could question his persistence.

This week, in addition to launching his Bosnia season, he sent the Secretary of State for Transport a tape of Channel 4's recent *Dispatches* programme which uncovered new evidence about the Marchioness ferry disaster, together with a personal letter urging him to open a public enquiry into the tragedy. On Tuesday Mr Grade joined other leading broadcasters in a delegation to Peter Brooke, the Heritage Secretary, at which they asked him to overturn the broadcasting ban on Sinn Fein. The ban, Mr Grade says, is a form of censorship and a barrier to understanding.

"Little by little people can gain a better understanding of what is going on around them in the world through television," he says. "That is what good programmes can do and that is why we must not be blamed for raising painful or difficult issues."

It is a thought that might just make this year's yuletide overdose of tele-cheer a little more palatable.

ALEXANDRA FREAN

Thank heavens for Saturday

What was once a dud day has become a lifesaver for the national daily press

PAPER ROUND

Brian MacArthur

Several commentators — and even more the boys and girls who deliver them — have been cursing all the new sections that have been added to the Saturday and Sunday papers this autumn.

At my last count there were 13. A reader of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* one recent weekend got 476 pages in 16 sections. *Guardian/Observer* readers got 404 in 11 and *Daily Mail/Mail on Sunday* readers got 364 in five — and some households still buy two papers on both Saturday and Sunday.

Yet despite the curses, the truth is that for weekday papers Saturday has become the best sales day of the week. Sales from Monday to Friday, the days of work and a blitz of on-the-hour news bulletins, are still dropping. Average daily sales were down last month by 101,000 on a year ago, when they were down 130,000 on 1991. The situation would be much worse if it were not for the success of the new bumper Saturday papers. So unless editors compete section for section with their rivals their papers suffer.

Saturday was once the deadest day of the week for newspapers, especially advertisers. Then, five years ago, Fleet Street editors and managers started wondering whether they could attract new advertising and more readers by emulating the Sunday papers and adding new sections.

The Times (which now has five Saturday sections) launched a short-lived 16-page property section; the FT substituted "Weekend" for "Saturday" as its Saturday dateline, *The Independent* and *The Daily Telegraph* started Saturday magazines and the *Daily Express* and *Daily Mail* began monthly (though short-lived) Saturday supplements.

On Saturdays *The Daily Telegraph* now sells at least 200,000 more copies than on weekdays and the *Daily Mail*, which introduced a bright, glossy seven-day weekend TV listings magazine this autumn, revealed last week that its sale on Saturday, December 3, was 1,954,000, more than 200,000 up on its average weekday sale (and, incidentally, higher than the average sale of *The Mail on Sunday*, whose new Sunday section has not been a critical success).

That Saturday boost, adding at least 800,000 extra sales a month, made the *Daily Mail* the only middle-market daily in November which increased sales over October, with average sales up by 14,600. *Today* was down by 13,600 and the *Daily Express* by 14,500. Similar Saturday sales boosts are achieved by several other papers including *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror*, which probably sell even more extra copies on Saturday than *The Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily Mail*.

The result is almost certainly that over the past three years sales of national newspapers on Saturdays have risen by more than a million. Over the same period sales of Sunday papers have fallen by 1.1 million, although the heaviest of all, The Sunday Times, with ten sections, is up 40,000 on a year ago. Whether that is cause and effect nobody can tell but the amount of extra reading now delivered on Saturday must be one contributory reason for the drop in sales on Sundays.

Unofficial estimates suggest that over those three years Saturday sales of the tabloids have increased by about 850,000. Meanwhile on Sundays, sales of the tabloids have fallen by 1.1 million.

Newspaper managements are still reluctant to publish separate sales figures for Saturdays. But my bet is that sales of national newspapers from Monday to Friday are now running at about 13.2 million, rising to about 14.2 million on Saturdays and 15.7 million on Sundays.

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THEATRE page 30
Elaine Paige triumphs as the voice of Edith Piaf, if not the character

ARTS

MUSIC page 31
Nicholas Kenyon, controller of Radio 3, on the future of BBC orchestras



Jeremy Kingston salutes the 150th anniversary of the publication of the book that became a blueprint for Christmas

How Dickens blessed us, every one

Christmas is not entirely the invention of Charles Dickens. Prince Albert had a hand in it, too. Sir Henry Cole, later the driving force behind the 1851 Great Exhibition, commissioned the first Christmas card. Events in Judaea, circa 4BC, played their part, and pre-Christian religions contributed the custom of decorating buildings with greenery at mid-winter festivals. But Dickens fixed the merrily festive character of Christmas permanently into the minds of English-speaking people with two famous descriptions.

The first, midway through *The Pickwick Papers* (1837), is set in the Manor Farm of Dingley Dell, and the seasonal junketing follows on from a wedding party on Christmas Eve. It features ice-skating, kissing under mistletoe and a great deal of heavy drinking, as well as a "five and 20 mile walk" between lunch and dinner to ameliorate the effects of the equally hearty eating.

The second description appeared in *A Christmas Carol*, a short book that begins late one Christmas Eve but contains several Christmases, past, present, future and hypothetical. Dickens wrote the book in six weeks, working on *Martin Chuzzlewit* at the same time, and it was published in December, 150 years ago this week.

To celebrate the sesquicentenary, the Post Office has turned from its usual Christmas subjects (illuminated manuscripts, stained glass, angels on high) and chosen Quentin Blake to illustrate five scenes from the book. Bob Cratchit bears Tiny Tim aloft on the 19p stamp, Mr and Mrs Fezziwig promenade benignly across the 25p. The same illustrator, on the same subject, is featured in Selfridges' windows this Christmas. And, further to celebrate the anniversary, for two weeks at the Old Vic starting on December 28, Patrick Stewart gives his solo version of *A Christmas Carol* in which he plays 39 characters.

Of all Dickens's works, this one has been adapted, staged, filmed, mimed and performed more frequently than any other. It was the first of his famous public readings, and formed the greater part of the programme of his last. Innumerable stage versions have been produced. Four silent films of it were made before the First World War. The story has even been danced, notably at the Empire Cinema, Leicester Square, as an entertainment between films, in 1951; a version by Massimo Morricone is currently in Northern Ballet Theatre's repertoire (and will be televised on Christmas Day on BBC2). It was also turned into an opera by the Scottish composer, Thea Musgrave, in 1979.







MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

Marley haunts Scrooge in (from left) John Leech's illustration for the 1843 *Christmas Carol* and S.J Woolf's 1911 magazine drawing; while in 1915 Arthur Rackham showed the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come

In the early 19th century, popular works of fiction were almost instantly adapted for the stage, usually by ill-paid hacks, and two or more different versions might compete for audiences in the same city. The author received no direct recompense and was fortunate if the adaptations kept close to the original. So great was the demand for theatrical versions of Dickens's longer works, which came out in monthly parts, that dramatisations were put on before he had finished writing them. One version of *The Old Curiosity Shop* ended with Little Nell living happily ever after, because the adapter never imagined that Dickens would kill her off in the last chapters.

Early in February, 1844, Dickens took a party to see a performance of *A Christmas Carol* at the Old Adelphi Theatre, and professed himself relatively pleased. The actor playing Ebenezer Scrooge "was drearily better than I expected. It is a great comfort to have that kind of meat underdone, and his face is quite perfect". No fewer than seven other productions opened in London that same month.

But by then Victorian England was ready to accept a development in the celebration of Christmas. Cole's Christmas cards made their first appearance in the same month as *A Christmas Carol*: about one thousand were sent, by the new penny post that had been introduced three years before. Prince Albert brought the custom of a decorated fir tree from his native Germany after his marriage to Victoria in 1840. A fir tree hung with tinsel and ornaments had been seen at the court of George IV's errant queen, Caroline of Brunswick, but her life was rackety in the extreme, and the practice did not catch on until it became associated with the domestic bliss of the young Victoria and Albert. For many years Christmas trees were confined to the home, as the focus of private celebrations.

Dickens contributed marvellous word-pictures of plenty, in his descriptions of tables groaning under dishes of food and shops bursting with provisions: "There were ruddy, brown-faced, broad-girthed Spanish onions, shining in the fatness of their growth like Spanish Friars." The poulterer's shop is still open on Christmas morning because this is where the reformed Scrooge sends a boy to buy the prize Turkey (Dickens gives it a capital T) and deliver it to the Cratchits.

Significantly, Scrooge's three actions that morning are: first, to send this present, anonymously, to his clerk; secondly, to give an unspecified but breathtaking sum to the man collecting for the poor and destitute; and finally, to accept his nephew's invitation to dinner. Presents to friends and relatives; help for the needy; jollity with the family. All three had long been associated with the spirit of Christmas, but it was the genius of Dickens that unforgettably integrated them.

The effect on Dickens's contemporary readers, and still more upon those who attended his readings, was sensational

The effect on his contemporary readers, and still more upon those who attended his readings, was sensational. Near the end, at the words "Tiny Tim, who did NOT die" — the capital letters are Dickens's own — audiences sprang to their feet and cheered. In Boston, Massachusetts, a local industrialist was so moved that he ended his firm's practice of working on Christmas Day, and the following year began the custom of giving a turkey to every employee.

Except for one performance of *The Cricket on the Hearth*, the charity readings Dickens began in 1853 consisted solely of *A Christmas Carol*, and this ever-popular work became central to the more varied programmes he devised for his professional readings. His prompt-copy survives in the Berg Collection, New York, and the markings in brown and blue ink show how he gradually reduced its length from three hours to 90 minutes.

Since Stewart's performance will last 140 minutes a number of the episodes Dickens eventually omitted or shortened will return. I hope one of them will be the passage Dickens most surprisingly cut, where the Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge the two wretched scowling waifs. "This boy is Ignorance. This girl is Want. Beware them both, and all of their degree, but most of all beware this boy, for on his brow I see that written which is Doom, unless the writing be erased."

Perhaps Dickens considered this passage too apocalyptic for a theatrical entertainment. But he was wrong to leave it out. The vision strikingly identifies the dreadful consequence of shutting the heart against the Christmas spirit. Today, as always, we need to remember that feasting with the family and sending gifts to friends are only two of the good deeds Scrooge undertook.

COMEDY

Line-up with punch

Comedy Store Gala
Oxendon Street, SW1

COMEDY was born in a small basement in Soho in 1979. At least, a new age for the art dawned when Don Ward threw out the dancing girls and bigoted jokes of established cabaret and introduced wall-to-wall alternative comedians. French and Saunders and Mayall and Edmondson cut their teeth at the Dean Street Comedy Store.

It proved so popular that Ward moved to a 200-seater in Leicester Square, the subsequent Mecca of stand-up. This week, the Store shifted a few hundred yards and doubled in size again. However, success hasn't gone to its head. Gala night in the new basement still felt intimate.

Supercamp Julian Clary compered, modelling a collection of keep-fit evening wear: a range of sequined all-in-ones for the better-dressed bike messenger. He was not on his best form, but got enough innuendos in to satisfy the opening night's full house.

Also compering, Jo Brand was enormously funny about being fat (her second favourite f-word), ugly and easy. Brand thrives on bouts of verbal kung fu with spectators. She came down on the builders in the audience like a ton of bricks. Still, she combines a certain affection with her man-eating aggression: after all, one gathers, she will lay as well as lay into anything in trousers.

Eddie Izzard rambled about sacrificing socks to the god of the launderette and putting detergent balls on your cat's paws, while smartly taking soap powder advertisers to the cleaners.

Some of the acts — like Tony Allen's — were off-colour in comparison with Izzard's dazzling woolly brilliance. Simon Fanshawe ended, sadly, all washed up. He dried completely and hurried off stage. The audience, a far cry from the Rottweilers of the Store's early years, let him go with just a whimper of disappointment and sympathy. Anyway, Jack Dee, poetry-reading John Hegley and Paul Merton soon had the show back on its feet.

The thriving Comedy Store is celebrating more than just the fact that it is standing. Even with the builders working on the vents during the intervals, the new venue is a hot property. Certainly, Ward knows when to stick to successful formulae: the Comedy Store Players' improv, the Cutting Edge's weekly satire, the same seats, signs, and even floor colour.

But Ward is also moving on. He plans Sunday lunchtime shows and children's workshops. And, of course, the famous open spot is still available for the comedians of the future.

KATE BASSETT



Mary Black, Ireland's latest contribution to perfect sound

POP CONCERTS: Voice of an angel; bat out of hell

Singers sacred and profane

Mary Black
Albert Hall

THIS year has seen Mary Black continue to steal up on the blind side of international success. Venerated for years at home in Ireland, her last few albums have taken her elegant voice to a wider audience, in which longtime fans remain enchanted by her interpretative charms. A second night at the Albert Hall ended a 13-date UK tour; it marked a return visit after a triumphant appearance early in 1992, later televised by Channel 4.

By her own admission, Black is no songwriter; her current set *The Holy Ground* gives her no composing credits, but her rise and rise on record has everything to do with carefully chosen material. In concert, the secret lies in tasteful, if unspectacular, recreations of the same.

After the lusty stagemanship of the Rankin Family — a Canadian band that, rare among support acts, fully deserved the luxury of an encore — the downbeat disposition of Black and her band was quite a leap of style. It would not be unkind to say that the singer is not an especially magnetic leading lady. Still, when she opens her mouth, the audience is in her power. The phenomenon began with the first number, John Gorka's "Treasure Island", and did not finish until a third encore had been demanded and given.

In between, she made great play of the songs of countrymen such as Jimmy MacCarthy and Noel Brazil. She prefaced Sandy Denny's "One-Way Donkey Ride" by expressing her affinity with the late folk heroine, and allowed the band the space to turn "Ellis Island" into an epic piece of instrumentation.

Black brought the Rankin Family back for one of her encores and, if a feeling persisted that a little more showmanship might have taken the evening to loftier peaks, it did not show on the faces of the audience, in which English as well Irish eyes were smiling.

PAUL SEXTON

Meat Loaf
Wembley Arena

THE first quintessentially Meat Loaf moment came early in what turned out to be a mammoth, two-and-a-half-hour set. He revealed to his disciples that he had been coming to London for 16 years now, but had never expressed quite how he felt. And that feeling was one of gratitude, he said, apologising for having taken so long to say "thank you" to his fans. From then on in, Meatmania was scarcely contained.

Which must have been a source of no small pleasure to the man who, despite being co-author of 1977's 25-million selling *Bat Out Of Hell*, had spent recent years languishing without a record deal. But *Bat Out Of Hell II: Back Into Hell*, a reunion with his former collaborator Jim Steinman, has proved a runaway success, and so bullish was Meat in the wake of this vindication that he felt able to toss away the chart-topping "I Would Do Anything For Love (But I Won't Do That)" as the evening's opener. Your current No 1 as an aperitif: confidence indeed.

But then he and Steinman know that the lurid, semi-comic melodramas that characterise their work together are beyond fashion, beyond criticism even. They are the stuff that dreams are made of, the self-aggrandising soundtrack to millions of ordinary lives. Old or new, they divide into two stylistic camps — the fast and raucous rockers, the piano-heavy and ponderous ballads — often within the same lengthy song.

No matter. Even when the going got tough on the listening front, there was a barrowload of theatrics to enjoy. Meanwhile the improbable volume achieved by five backing musicians and a self-consciously glamorous girl singer rendered dozing off an impossibility.

Pantomime more than rock 'n' roll, this value-packed evening succeeded because of the monster presence of a man who remains an unlikely hero for the 1990s.

ALAN JACKSON

TELEVISION: Moving images of a master photojournalist

The prints and the paupers

While there were many remarkable facts in *Looking Back At You*, last night's fascinating **Omnibus** tribute to Magnum photographer Sebastiao Salgado (BBC1), perhaps the most extraordinary was this: Salgado sometimes gives prints of his pictures to the people he has photographed. I just can't tell you how rare this is.

Most photographic subjects find themselves spinning, bewildered: "What happened? Where did he go? Is that it? What about *me*?" So it is refreshing to know that things can be different.

Any malign prejudices one might have entertained about photographers as quick-swipe opportunists, making money off the top of other people's existences, were swept away in an instant. This *Omnibus* emphasised that Salgado, whose huge Third World black-and-white photojournalism project "Workers" took him six years to complete, lives inside a story before he takes it out. His pictures, according to one of his editors, "show people at their best in a situation that is not naturally uplifting". Such a thing takes time.

What a surprise when Salgado turned out to be a denim shirt-wearer with a tanned face. From the evidence of his most famous pictures — depicting a vast hellish Brazilian gold mine, thickly swarmed with men on ladders so tiny and earthy they look like creatures spawned from the living mud — I had somehow expected a coal-eyed madman, his company something like reading Trotsky by flashes of lightning.

But the American professorial look was not completely out of place. Equipped with an economics degree, his imagination fired early in life by a steel foundry in his native Brazil, Salgado is fascinated less by 10x8 images than by the human labour connections between iron and coal, sugar and cocoa, ships and docks. His ideas are clear, simple and compelling. Never again will I assume that tea comes from packets.

Andrew Snell's film revisited the locations of Salgado's photo-shoots and knitted the material with care. Thus for the "warriors" in Salgado's collection, the machete-wielding cane-cutters of South America, *Omnibus* showed us travelling shots of the flatlands of Brazil, the burning stubble, and most impressively, the cane workers hacking the ankles of the crop at a ferocious, punishing rate. "It is very violent work, very difficult," Salgado said in voice-over.

His photos — the black and white removing the heat from the picture, but intensifying the human drama — had echoes also of the Saracen and pirate, the flat of the blade swooping towards the lens. But it was steel production that really gripped him. He was very lyrical about steel — the "rivers of magma", and all that — and his pictures show black silhouettes against enormous coppers wreathed in steam, lit by fire.

What Snell's film more or less disguised was the enormous difficulty of discussing photography on television. Ken Morse, the famous rostrum cameraman, is normally required to zoom in and out of photos, depriving them of their composition. But you need time to absorb a photograph, and the last thing you want is for your eye to be skewered to a particular corner of it, just for the sake of movement on the screen. Here, however, the pictures were allowed to stand up for themselves; and I, for one, was grateful.

LYNNE TRUSS

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

LONDON PHILHARMONIC: Mariss Jansons, music director of the St Petersburg Philharmonic, conducts Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 3 with soloist Mikhail Rudy. The programme also includes Schubert's Overture in C in the Italian style, and Mozart's exhilarating Symphony No 41, *Jupiter*. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE: Opening night for Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders, together again in a new offbeat comedy by the author of the film Beaches. **Strand**, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Tonight, 7pm.

NASH ENSEMBLE: The group shows off its imagination and virtuosity once more when Michael Collins, clarinet, and Ian Brown, piano, join them for an all-Mozart programme: Trio in E flat K498; String Quartet in C minor K406; Fantasia and Fugue in C K394, and Serenade in B flat for 13 winds. **Wigmore Hall**, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: The rollicking good fun adventures of Roald Dahl's **The Giraffe and Me** are brought to life courtesy of the Birmingham Stage Company. An abundance of music, songs and special effects. **Old Rep Theatre**, Station Street (021-616 1519)

EDINBURGH: A recital by leading piano duo **Peter Donohoe** and **Martin Roscoe**. Music for two pianos includes Stravinsky (Sonata for Two Pianos; Concerto); King (Sonata for Two Pianos), and Debussy (*En Blanc et Noir*). **Queen's Hall**, Clerk Street (031-668 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm.

LEEDS: Opera North opens its winter season with a performance of Mozart's short, melodious and richly scored masterpiece *Il re pastore*. Joan Rodgers and Mary Hegarty both cut a shining swathe through an overly cutesy set. Paul Daniels conducts. **Grand Theatre**, 46 New Briggate (0532 459351/440971). Tonight and Friday, 7.15pm.

MANCHESTER: Avril Elgar, Samuel West and Marcia Warren in a fine cast for a comedy 99 years old but still the tops: *The Importance Of Being Earnest*. **Royal Exchange**, St Ann's Square (061 833 9833). Preview tonight, 7.30pm; opens tomorrow, 7.30pm. Until Jan 23.

NOTTINGHAM: Clarinettist Richard Stoltzman changes mood after yesterday's all-contemporary performance when he joins Hugh Wolff and the **CBSO** for a programme including Berlioz, Corigliano and Tchaikovsky. Also tomorrow in Birmingham. **Royal Concert Hall**, Theatre Square (0602 482626). Tonight, 7.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: The London Group (071-638 4141) . . . **British Museum:** Debbes and Devotions: Hindu art, Kawanabe Kyosai (071-636 1555) . . . **Festival Hall:** Bruce Chatwin's Photographs (071-928 3002) . . . **National Portrait Gallery:** The Portrait Now; Thomas Eakins (071-306 0055) . . . **National Gallery:** Ken Kiff (071-839 3321) . . . **Royal Academy of Arts:** Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum (071-439 7438) . . . **Serpentine:** Richard Wentworth (071-402 6075) . . . **Tate:** Writing on the Wall: women artists; Ben Nicholson; Turner's Vignettes (071-887 8008) . . . **V&A:** Gates of Mystery: Russian Icons; 150 Years of the Christmas Card (071-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **THE BFG:** Roald Dahl's Big Friendly Giant makes his annual seasonally festive call on London. **Albery**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon 7pm, Tue-Fri, 2pm and 7pm; Sat 11am, 2.30pm, 7pm

◩ **CAROUSEL:** Tuneful and cleverly set Rodgers and Hammerstein musical extravaganza. **Shaftesbury**, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 165mins.

□ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's marvellously re-imagined version of Priestley's social thriller. **Aldwych**, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm; mat Wed, 2.30pm.

□ **JAMAIS VU:** In addition to directing *Beauty and the Beast* at the BAC, Ken Campbell also brings his one-man trilogy to the West End for the first time. The eccentric actor-director is in typical form with his brilliant blend of humour and philosophical acumen. Wacky, perhaps, but a bold theatrical pioneer. **Vaudeville Theatre**, The Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 2.30pm. Until Dec 23

◩ **MEDEA:** Jonathan Kent directs the magnificent Diana Rigg in Euripides's tragedy of a woman's revenge. First seen at the Almeida last year. **Wyndham's**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats, Sat 5.30pm

□ **MOONLIGHT:** Ian Holm and Anna Massey in the West End transfer of Pinter's play: a sour civil servant, unmourned by his family, rages against his approaching death. **Comedy**, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◩ **NIGHT AFTER NIGHT:** Neil Bartlett's witty recreation of the back-stage life and assumptions of the 1950s musicals. Spirited and intelligent. **Royal Court**, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat 4pm. Final week of performances.

◩ **OLEANNA:** Power, politics and punishment at an American university. Great performances by David Suchet and Lia Williams in Harold Pinter's production of David Mamet's play. **Duke of York's**, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

◩ **ONE MAN:** Electrifying performances by Steven Berkoff in three solo pieces: Poe's *Telltale Heart*; *Actor*, and *Dog*, his hilarious; chilling view of life as seen by a lager lout's rottweiler. **Garrick**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

◩ **PIAF:** Peter Hall directs Elaine Paige in Pam Gems' portrait of the great French chanteuse. See review, right. **Piccadilly**, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (without Paige) and Sat 3pm.

□ **PLAYHOUSE CREATURES:** The Sphinx (formerly Women's Theatre Group) present April de Angelis's latest: the success and struggles of Nell Gwyn and the first English actresses. With Fleur Bennett and Frances Cuka. **Lyric Studio**, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 8701). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. No perfs Dec 24, 25, 27, 31, Jan 3. Until Jan 8.

□ **RELATIVE VALUES:** Susan Hampshire, Sara Crowe and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs. **Savoy**, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES:** Ian McDiarmid and Emma Fielding head a strong cast in Molière's affecting comedy. **Almeida**, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm.

□ **THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA:** The national tour of David Thacker's delightful RSC production (with music by Gershwin and Cole Porter), in London for one month. **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Extra mats Dec 23 and 30 at 3pm. Till Jan 15

■ **WIND IN THE WILLOWS:** Back for the really and truly last time, but running until March. Desmond Barrit as Mr Toad. **National** (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . . ◩ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ◩ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . . . ◩ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) . . . □ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) . . . ◩ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-580 8845) . . . ◩ **Hot Stuff:** Cambridge (071-494 5040) . . . ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) . . . ◩ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ◩ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . . □ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◩ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◩ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) . . . □ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . . □ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES (PG): A new baby causes chaos in America's most macabre household. Overblown sequel, with good stretches. With Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston; director, Barry Sonnenfeld. **Empire** (071-497 9999) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

AMERICAN HEART (15): Father and son hit the Seattle streets. Well-meaning social drama from director Martin Bell stars Jeff Bridges and Edward Furlong. **Odeon Haymarket** (0426 915353)

THE SECRET ADVENTURES OF TOM THUMB (12): Dreary, unpleasant pixilated fantasy from the bolexbrothers animation studio in Bristol. **ICA** (071-930 3647)

TOKYO STORY (U): Yasujiro Ozu's wonderful, tender classic of 1953 about an ageing couple's family visit. Part of a two-week season of Ozu films. **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

CURRENT

◆ **ALADDIN** (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

BOUND & GAGGED: A LOVE STORY (18): Muddled comic adventures in search of the characters' better selves. American independent misfire from writer-director Daniel Appleby. **Metro** (071-437 0757) **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561)

◆ **DEMOLITION MAN** (15): Sylvester Stallone versus Wesley Snipes in 21st century L.A. Marco Brambilla's satirical, if overblown action romp. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

THE HAWK (15): Is Helen Mirren's husband Lancashire's serial killer? Modest but powerful domestic thriller, from Peter Ransley's novel. David Hayman directs. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

NAKED (18): Mike Leigh's excellent, uncomfortable Cannes prizewinner about London's lost souls, with David Thewlis as the amoral drifter. **MGMs: Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148)

◆ **ORLANDO** (PG): Virginia Woolf's exuberant novel about a free spirit (Tilda Swinton) who lives for 400 years, changing sex en route; filmed with great aplomb by British director Sally Potter. **MGM Swiss Centre** (071-439 4470)

◆ **THE PIANO** (15): Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire in mid-19th century New Zealand. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill, Harvey Keitel. Score by Michael Nyman. **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

RAINING STONES (15): Wonderful slice of life on a Catholic council estate. Director Ken Loach blends biting humour and raw pain. Endearing performances from local talent. **MGM Panton Street** (071-930 0631)

THE REMAINS OF THE DAY (U): Life and lost chances of an English butler. Merchant Ivory's cold glamorous account of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel with Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson, James Fox and Christopher Reeve. **Curzons: Mayfair** (071-465 8865) **West End** (071-439 4805) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057)

◆ **THE SECRET GARDEN** (U): Polished version of Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic; a confident mainstream debut for director Agnieszka Holland. With Kate Maberly, Maggie Smith and John Lynch. **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Minema** (071-235 4225) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE** (PG): Meg Ryan makes a long-distance play for widower Tom Hanks. Smart but indulgent romantic comedy from writer-director Nora Ephron. **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915574)

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** sees Elaine Paige capture the spirit, if not the soul, of Piaf

Provenance of the sparrow's fall

Piaf
Piccadilly

IT IS nearly 15 years since Jane Lapotaire played Piaf for the RSC, but her performance is still firmly fixed in my memory bank. She steered the character from the brash, naive tart of the early years to the sullen drug addict of the declining ones, and managed to suggest, without mawkishness, that, beneath the crudeness and the cruelty, the self-absorption and the despair, there always was a natural generosity and an unswerving integrity.

Plenty of others presumably agreed with this view, for she took *Piaf* from Stratford to the West End to Broadway, where she won a Tony Award.

Lapotaire is, of course, more a straight actress than a singer. Elaine Paige, who performs the Parisian sparrow in Peter Hall's crisp, pacy revival of Pam Gems's play, is rather more singer than straight actress. Her Piaf certainly makes the eardrums hum when she tells us, very near the beginning of her career, that she has "seen it all and had it rough"; but there is something almost too accomplished in the way she bangs out the lyric. She *sings* of roughness and contrives to sound too smooth. There *is* a raw pain in Piaf — some might say, a raw pain that *was* Piaf — that eludes her.

But if she does not inhabit the role as fully as she might, or quite live out all *its* contradictions, Paige is a strong, unsentimental presence. She looks the part — that battling stance, head thrust combatively forward, tiny arms bent as if for attack — and commands John Gunter's gaunt, bleak set.

That is just as well, for the play can seem sketchy, sometimes almost scrappy. We follow the sparrow's erratic flight from the streets to clubs to Carnegie Hall, to hospitals and nursing homes. We watch her picking up and dropping young men, at times as offhandedly as a bird in search of a breakfast of worms. But to do her justice, Paige maintains a hold not only on the eye and ear, but on the parts beneath.



Elaine Paige as the doomed Edith Piaf in Peter Hall's revival of Pam Gems's play. Drawing by Bill Hewison

There are scenes, for instance one in which Piaf and her chum Toine (a splendidly raucous Wendy Morgan) entertain German officers while the Resistance cavorts in a brothel upstairs, which seem underwritten. Gems makes too much effort to pack in biographical information and too little to explore *it* in depth and detail. But the up-side of that is, I suppose, that she does not over-analyse, over-explain, or peddle her moral opinions in the pushy way so common among "serious" dramatists in the 1970s.

The view of Piaf that emerges is of a woman too honest, independent and balky to be softened by success or seduced by middle-class ways. At the start her reaction to a waiter who sniggers when she drinks from a fingerbowl is to pee on his nice clean floor; and, although it tends to take slightly more sanitary forms, the habit of defiance never leaves her. The four-letter words keep coming, along with the rows, the affairs, and the other demonstrations that, as she ruefully remarks in the evening's funniest line, she'll never be Doris Day.

But by the end Piaf is doddering out towards the mike, puffy-faced with drink and zonked with morphine, and not managing to find where it is. "Je ne regrette rien," she inevitably goes on to inform us. Gems's point, communicated by Paige, is that not regretting rien takes an awful toll.

DANCE: Postmodern peculiarity in London; familiar delights from Birmingham Royal Ballet

All the wrong moves

Divas
Lilian Baylis

LIZ Aggis chooses not to reply when midway in Divas' *Falling Apart at the Seams* her co-performer Naomi Itami asks "Is this piece postmodern or post-postmodern?" Whatever her reply might have been, though, I doubt I should have believed it, so indescribable is this duet about ageing. Adjectives such as grotesque, naive, silly, irrelevant and amateurish wandered through my mind, without completely defining the full horrible picture.

Aggis is the comedienne entering in a cardboard cut-out dress, knobbly knees flailing below; Itami is the sophisticated foil, aiming verbal barbs in the dialogues that pepper their act. Aggis also dances, executing movement of unremarkable difficulty and bizarre characteristics: grovellings on the floor, contortions of the arms, posturings with a chair. Itami sings, but so does Aggis, the one usually alternating with the other, the former in Italian, the latter in English. Aggis uses her microphone brazenly whereas Itami conceals a discreet aid about her person: a coyness derived perhaps from her billing as an international opera singer.

The songs contain deliberately awful rhymes, but I don't know whether they were written by Billy Cowie, composer and, with Aggis, founder and choreographer of Divas. His music, though, is one of the piece's more attractive aspects, offering contrasted sections often with a melodic lyrical line overlying a strong spiky pulse.

Less engaging is his score for the opening piece of the twin programme: monotonously slow and portentous songs featuring Polish texts set to music for four cellos (played live). If *Falling Apart at the Seams* is bad, *No Man's Land* is dire. It is also ambitious, a succession of episodes presenting one singer (Juliet Russell) and 18 women aged from seven to 70. Untrained as dancers for the most part, they perform simplistic movement that includes groups which stamp and pose in German Expressionist style and a quartet linked by ropes which they grip between their teeth. The connection between such images and the lyrics (as translated in the programme) escaped me, but the tacky awfulness did not.

NADINE MEISNER

Dazzling festive display

The Nutcracker
Hippodrome, Birmingham

IT WAS Christmas Day in the workhouse — no, sorry, that is the ribald, irreverent *Nutcracker* at Sadler's Wells. And then there are the skimpy Russian versions in the regions, and the traditional ones about to open at Covent Garden and the Festival Hall. But the one I saw on Monday was Birmingham Royal Ballet's, pulling in full houses at the Hippodrome for the fourth year running.

This is much the prettiest of them all, thanks to John Macfarlane's designs, which also provide the most spectacular transformation scenes. Peter Wright's production makes better sense of the story than usual, without departing far from Petipa's original concept. He sprinkles it with conjuring tricks with which Drosselmeyer amazes the party guests, and his magical powers explain how he conjures up the dances to entertain and involve Clara in the second half, making them less inconsequential than is customary.

My only complaint is that his last trick, changing the young ballet student into her future ballerina self for the final pas de deux, robs Clara of her biggest number. But it does give the audience two leading women instead of one. And I cannot imagine a more delightful pair than at this performance. Sandra Madgwick, who had the leading role, acts with easy conviction the heroine's delight, alarm and enchantment, and she dances beautifully all evening; Miyako Yoshida in her brief starring spot is crisp, radiant and assured.

They shared a guest partner, borrowed from the Australian Ballet under an exchange scheme which took Yoshida to the Antipodes earlier this year. David McAllister's quiet, smiling manner is backed by an attractive personality that is the more commanding for being so unassuming, and the directness of his clean, virile, athletic dancing fits perfectly into the production.

Tchaikovsky's contribution to the evening — let's not forget the man who made it all possible — is well supported by the Royal Ballet Sinfonia with Barry Wordsworth conducting, and the company from youngest student associate to longest-serving character actor look good in a staging which does them credit.

JOHN PERCIVAL

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton St, W1 071-493 2107. Costume designs by EDWARD BURRA. 8-21 December, Mon-Fri 10-5pm.

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OPERA & BALLET

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THEATRES

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While the rest of the orchestral world faces uncertainty, the BBC remains committed to its orchestras, writes Radio 3 controller **Nicholas Kenyon**

Overture to further adventures

At a time of turmoil in the orchestral world, where does the BBC stand? It is the biggest single employer of orchestral musicians in the country, with a historic role in national provision which dates back to the foundation of the BBC Symphony Orchestra in 1930.

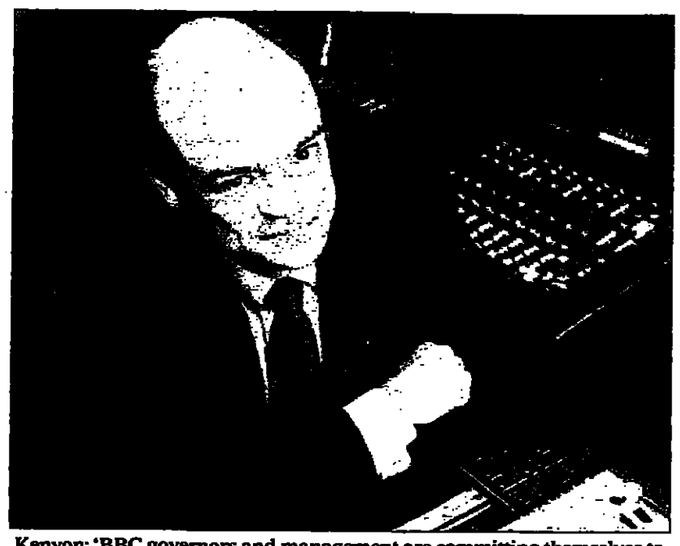
It is difficult, sometimes, to understand the passion that is generated in debates about orchestras. Few experiences are as elementally thrilling as a great symphony orchestra in full flight, yet few logistical operations are as complex, few artistic enterprises as volatile, and few financial equations so unpredictable.

The BBC's unique role in orchestral life has always been based on two unchanging principles: a commitment to live music-making, and an exploration of the widest, most adventurous repertory. Orchestral music is a live art: perfect CD recordings, with all they have done to expand public enjoyment of the art, cannot replace the fact that every live performance of a great masterpiece or a contemporary work is different. That is something to be revelled in, and it's something that Radio 3, with its mandate for live music, puts at the heart of its mission with its nightly relays from around the country and the world.

But does the BBC really need to run orchestras itself? Orchestras are expensive, especially if they rehearse difficult and demanding pieces adequately. When Adrian Boult gave the British premiere of Berg's *Wozzeck* with the BBC in 1935, he was confidently told by a Viennese colleague that the 18 (!) orchestral rehearsals would be totally inadequate; when our orchestras give the premieres of new works around the country — when the BBC Philharmonic works with Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, or the BBC Scottish gives its *Gramophone* award-winning performances of James MacMillan's music — they need to have the time and resources to do so to the highest standards.

As Radio 3 is the first to recognise, the best orchestras in Great Britain have their own editorial agendas, which the BBC wants to reflect. We want to broadcast Kent Nagano's mould-breaking concerts as the new music director of the Hallé Orchestra; Sir Colin Davis's outstanding complete Sibelius cycle with the LSO (which Radio 3 will be repeating this Christmas), Libor Pesek conducting Nicholas Maw in Liverpool.

But the BBC too has its own editorial agenda, as it does in comedy, drama, current affairs. In all these fields we need to be an originator as well as a reflector, to have orchestras which put broadcasting needs first so that — as over the last couple of weeks — the BBC's orchestral forces around the country can come together to celebrate the achievements of Polish music and the birthdays of Lutoslawski, Penderecki and Gorecki in our *Polska!* season.



Kenyon: 'BBC governors and management are committing themselves to the future of the BBC orchestras, but working practices should change'

Our support for the extraordinary expertise and achievements of the BBC orchestras does not mean that nothing in the status quo can change. Far from it: the BBC is looking critically at all areas of its operation, so that it is spending the licence-payer's money most effectively. The orchestras will need to become more productive, to increase their earned income from all sources: this presents a radical challenge. We believe that in Scotland the local provision of orchestras outstrips the capacity of the market to absorb their full-time services, and hence the partnership we have proposed between the BBC Scottish Symphony and Scottish Opera, which the BBC fully supports. Other funding partnerships, of the kind the BBC National Orchestra of Wales currently enjoys with the Welsh Arts Council and S4C, show another way forward.

The BBC's governors and management are committing themselves to the future of the BBC orchestras, but their working practices should change so they become more flexible and more productive. As the BBC said in *Extending Choice*, we want the orchestras to play their full part in national orchestral provision. As Liz Forgan, managing director of Network Radio says in her statement today, we recognise that this proposed development has implications for our musicians and for orchestral life, and we want to proceed by agreement and negotiation with all interested parties.

We need a strategy for orchestral music in this country, one which (as John Drummond wrote in a powerful intervention in the current debate) is based on the facts of musicians' lives, but also on the facts of the audience's needs. My fundamental conviction is that access to live orchestral music for millions nationwide can be improved by good planning and foresight. The BBC will continue to play its part in this process, as it has from the beginning, by putting its orchestras at the service of audiences everywhere.

● The BBC announced yesterday that from the 1996 season Nicholas Kenyon will become director of the BBC Proms in succession to John Drummond. Drummond, who has directed the Proms since 1986, will see them through their centenary season in 1995.

Magnificence takes many forms

John Russell Taylor on an exhibition which explores the sumptuous legacy of a great patron and collector

It says something for Florence that while the year 1492 traditionally signified the discovery of America and the official beginning of the modern era, for Florence it was the end of a great period, the year Lorenzo the Magnificent died. The spectacular exhibition **Renaissance Florence** at the Accademia Italiana is devoted to a period, 1449-1492, which by most people's counting comes at the end of the Middle Ages. It leaves no doubt that here, during the lifetime of Lorenzo, the Renaissance was already in full flower.

Lorenzo's own relationship to all of this was polyvalent. Clearly he was passionately interested in some areas of artistic activity, considerably less so in others. His greatest passion was probably literary — which at the time meant an interest not only in texts, but in the physical way they were embodied in manuscripts full of exquisite calligraphy and gorgeous illumination.

One of the major monuments to Lorenzo's involvement is the Laurentian Library in Florence, completed after his death to plans by Michelangelo and housing the whole Medici collection, begun by Cosimo but enormously expanded in Lorenzo's last years. The exhibition starts with manuscripts connected with Lorenzo, and concludes with an amazing display of some of Lorenzo's most sumptuous acquisitions, shown in cases following the Michelangelo designs for reading desks in the Library itself.

Lorenzo was also one of the great collectors of his age. Apart from manuscripts he acquired (to the extent of emptying the ducal coffers) there is much of the sort of treasure which exerted a particular appeal for Renaissance grandees. Here are present some typical examples, such as the cups and vases of jasper, cornelian and crystal, sometimes richly mounted, and the intricate work in precious metals. But also some less typical, for Lorenzo had a taste which transcended the curious and quaint: the splendid bronze horse's head, dating probably from the second century BC, is an example of a fine work prized in its own right, but employed too as a model and inspiration for the new artists of the Renaissance just throwing off the shackles of the gothic.

> 'Lorenzo had a taste which transcended the curious and quaint'

Lorenzo's role as a patron of the new arts has been more controversial. Scholars have quibbled for years about his Garden of San Marco, how extensive and how significant it was. But recent research seems to indicate that the facilities it offered to young artists were of central importance. Its purpose, initially, was to house the Medici collection of antique sculpture. But Lorenzo set up a school there for artists he approved of or thought promising, and there they were able to study and emulate the antique. In particular, the young Michelangelo, who produced his earliest known works, *The Battle of the Lapiths and Centaurs* and the *Madonna of the Stairs*, both represented here by excellent casts, directly under the influence of what he saw in the Garden while still in his teens.

The only other work included here in reproduction is the ceramic frieze from the Laurentian villa of Poggio a Caiano, of which the exhibition's curator Cristina Acidini Luchinat puts forward a fascinating new interpretation. Otherwise everything is original, even the tabernacle of Piero del Pugliese, made up of painted wings by Fra Bartolomeo and a central relief sculpture by Donatello. The Donatello part was long supposed to be the *Madonna of the Clouds* in Washington, but recently new evidence has come to light which points instead to its being the so-called *Dudley Madonna*, in the Victoria and Albert and long attributed to Desiderio da Settignano. The juxtaposition of both parts is a unique opportunity to assess the probabilities of the suggested connection.

The other works on view include some more fruits of recent research, in the shape of attributions to such as Uccello (a beautifully intricate *Road to Perfection*) and Fillippo Lippi (the *Madonna of the Sea*), as well as pieces seldom seen outside Italy, like Botticelli's *Madonna and Child with St John* and the *Virgin of Mercy* by the mysterious Master of the Johnson Nativity. Much is grand, as befits a show dedicated to a ruler dubbed "the Magnificent". But occasionally there is room for expressive simplicity, as in Torrigiano's amazingly lifelike painted marble bust of *St Fina*, and even for something as humble as a cushion. Of course the patchwork cushion from the Basilica di Santa Maria is put together from the most lavish stuffs. But the mere fact of its survival brings the distant splendours of Renaissance Florence tinglingly close.

● **Accademia Italiana**, 24 Rutland Gate, SW7 (071-225 3474), until Jan 23



The fruit of recent research: the *Virgin of Mercy* by the mysterious 15th-century Master of the Johnson Nativity

RADIO

Art has no need of soul

Sunday evening, just after church service hour, is the perfect time for Radio 4's *Devout Sceptics*, a half-hour discussion on the large questions surrounding unbelief. The interviewer, Bel Mooney, is to the point but accommodating. Her guest last week was Jonathan Miller, so sceptical that he nearly choked when Mooney suggested that he might entertain notions about the soul. As a schoolboy Miller had viewed religious experience as one rather distasteful option out of many. "I didn't *do* rugby and I didn't *do* Christianity," he explained.

He professed a great wariness of "the crouching clergyman in the laurel bush," the kind of person who, if you let slip anything which smacks of spirituality, leaps out with cries of "Aha! Christian all along!". Clergymen crouching by their radios would have become very stiff-limbed, for Miller remained determinedly anti-metaphysical, often in surprising ways.

A couple of weeks ago Mooney was joined by Denis Healey, whose contribution suggested that, had he not become a politician, he would have made a fine broadcaster. Healey had said that art and music were expressions of the spiritual, an idea which Miller (renowned in part as a theatre and opera director) rejected as "sentimental tosh".

This is a fascinating series because the guests have been substantial, thoughtful people, who discuss a subject of great moment with wit and candour. No less significantly, they come into the studio with no book to plug, no performance to advertise, no recording to sell.

Further evidence of the value of the non-plugging guest was provided in Peter Curran's show on GLR, the BBC's station for London. Friday's guests included Raymond Seitz, the American Ambassador to London, who was appointed by Republicans and retained by Democrats. One or two more provocative questions would have been welcome, but if Seitz gave nothing away, he did it very articulately.

GLR interleaves discussion with pop and rock music, and it is the range of conversational ground covered that makes this an enticing form of popular programming. Where else could you hear about nuances in Britain and America's "special relationship" one minute, and discover in the next that more people now speak Klingon (the language of the baddies in *Star Trek*) than Esperanto?

The Locker Room returned for a new series on Radio 4 on Saturday. Although a men's issues programme it aims at listeners of both genders. In fact its magazine format could come straight out of *Marie Claire*. Tom Robinson chaired a discussion on young men's role models. Steven Wells compiled a report on varying styles and significances of facial hair.

The final item was the most revealing, a straightforward vox pop on date rape. The very existence of *The Locker Room* demonstrates progress of a sort, but the range of views which emerged in this closing sequence proves that "acceptable masculine behaviour" still finds many definitions, some of them unacceptable.

ANDY LAVENDER

CONCERTS: Youthful compositional talents on display in London; and a string quartet premiered in a handsome Yorkshire setting

Competing to be heard

It was perhaps too much to count on finding among the five pieces I heard of the 12 selected from 200 entries for the finals of the **Lloyds Bank Young Composer Awards** — a branch of the burgeoning BBC Young Musician of the Year industry — something that showed the depth of imagination which, for instance, Oliver Knussen, George Benjamin, Mark-Anthony Turnage or Thomas Ades possessed at similar fledgling stages of their careers.

Nevertheless, there was a high degree of self-confidence on display at the Guildhall School. Emma Field's *Goliath's Defeat*, which told a story directly and simply and with the right ethnic overtones, had filmic fluency about it, for instance, while Stuart Matthias's *Idyll* for string quartet deliberately inhabited an idyllic Delian landscape, with occasional bursts of wilder activity to puncture the smooth surface. Jane Cornish's String Quartet, of which we heard only the first movement, was similarly earthbound if idiomatic, and James Saunders's *After the Blue Hour* had evidently been encouraged by the Steve Reich school of mind-numbing space-filling.

Only David Knotts's *Songs of Parting*, three settings of Whitman, informed by Tippett and Britten but also latently individual, showed anything like mature passion and understanding. They were helped here by the ardent advocacy of the tenor Christopher Gillett. (Martyn Brabbins and the London Sinfonietta performed each piece throughout the afternoon with a similar professional dedication.)

Apparently more imagination was to show itself in the evening — the two eventual winners' pieces, 18-year-old Timothy Benjamin's *Antagony* and *Nina Ahogada en el Pozo* by Oscar Bettison, also 18, were played then — but another educational project distracted me. Sir Harrison Birtwistle was at the Festival Hall, making, as it were, his public debut as the **London Philharmonic Orchestra's** Composer in Residence.



Sir Harrison Birtwistle: workshops with the LPO

His first project has involved the taking of his *Ritual Fragments* to schools as the basis for workshops led by LPO players and the composer David Sawer, the results of which were presented in this early evening concert. As soon as the students of Kingsdale School began their carefully evolved improvisation, called *Metamorphosis*, the unself-conscious creativity contrasted sharply with what I had heard earlier. The 15 children's techniques and approaches might not have been refined — though some were — but each confidently occupied centre-stage in turn and expressed himself or herself freely and instinctively. The same happened in the work by Camden School for Girls, *Encounters*. Significantly the three short pieces made by students from the Centre for Young Musicians seemed the most constrained and over-cultivated.

Later, members of the LPO gave an accomplished reading of *Ritual Fragments* itself as the curtain-raiser to their evening concert. It continued with Thomas Zehetmair and Tabea Zimmermann as the soloists in Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante for violin and viola, given a rounded, elegantly phrased and smooth toned reading under Mark Wigglesworth.

To crown the evening there was Mahler's Tenth Symphony played in Deryck Cooke's realisation. Wigglesworth delivered a devastatingly passionate account of the work, undeterred by the odd imperfection from brass and woodwind. He understood that this music, for all its torments, finally teaches us to be at peace with death. So one departed curiously at peace with life too.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Sound travels as far as Australia

Skampa Quartet
Harewood House

Perhaps he shouldn't have told us. Alerted to the presence of "Waltzing Matilda" — "tucked away in all sorts of places," the composer says in his programme note — the ear pursued it relentlessly from the beginning to the end of Giles Swayne's new string quartet, sifting through every rhythmic and melodic phrase for significant traces. It seemed to find them too. But were they all intentional, and did they start at the beginning or only with the fairly obvious entry of the tune halfway through?

One might, in other words, have been listening to it the wrong way and missing the point — though clearly not the whole point, since the work was commissioned by Lord Harewood and dedicated to the memory of his Australian mother-in-law, Betty Tuckwell, who died two years ago. In general, however, it probably was helpful to have the thematic thread to follow, even when it wasn't there.

Otherwise, in a work of no clear continuity, of no regular shape, of distracting echoes of Beethoven and Bartók, of good ideas which emerge and disappear all too soon, it would have been difficult to stay with it. Even so, the string quartet's scoring is always interesting and the ending, with bows waltzing on the wood of the instruments followed by a canonic Matilda lullaby, is certainly effective.

The first performance of Giles Swayne's quartet No 3 was well placed not only in the recently and handsomely restored Gallery of Harewood House but also between Mozart's Hunt quartet in B flat, K458, and Janáček's quartet No 2. If the Skampa Quartet were more convincing in the Janáček than in the Mozart, it was partly because technical polish (which is still lacking one or two layers in this promising young Czech ensemble) is not the first essential for an authentic interpretation of the "Intimate Letters": as they demonstrated in a performance that was impressive in every way, unfailing emotional involvement, expressive imagination and idiomatic understanding are more important.

GERALD LARNER

WONDERFUL LLOYD WEBBER

LONDON
Adelphi Theatre
Sunset Boulevard
February 7

ANDREW Lloyd Webber's latest hit musical, based on the classic 1950 film directed by Billy Wilder and starring Gloria Swanson, drew rapturous reviews when it opened last July and has been playing to packed houses ever since.

Patti LuPone plays Norma Desmond, the star of silent films who longs for a return to the big screen having been left behind by the advent of "talkies". Kevin Anderson plays the struggling writer she enlists to help with her comeback.

With book and lyrics by Don Black — who wrote the lyrics for Lloyd Webber's *Tell Me On A Sunday* — and Christopher Hampton, the show perfectly captures the mood of faded glory and unfulfilled ambition in Hollywood.

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

THE Theatre Club has arranged an exclusive evening for members which includes a glass of wine with members of the cast after the show. We have a limited number of tickets for the show so please book early. Tickets are £36. Telephone 071-344 0055. For details of how to join the Theatre Club please call 071-387 9673

Presence of dwelling relevant to procedure

Dalhold Estates (UK) Pty Ltd (in administration) v Lindsey Trading Properties Inc

Before Lord Justice Ralph Gibson, Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Peter Gibson

[Judgment November 19]

The provisions of section 48 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1987, requiring that a landlord furnish a tenant with a notice stating the landlord's address for service within the jurisdiction, applied to agricultural tenancies which included a dwelling.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the defendant landlord, Lindsey Trading Properties Inc, against a decision of Mr Justice Chadwick, that, as section 48 applied to the tenancy, the notification of outstanding rent served on the plaintiff tenant, Dalhold Estates (UK) Pty Ltd, was defective in stating that rent was due to be paid on dates prior to service of the section 48 notice.

The Court of Appeal held that while section 48 of the 1987 Act did apply to the tenancy the appeal would be allowed as the notice to pay rent was valid as it did not mislead the tenant.

Section 46 of the 1987 Act provides: "(1) This part applies to premises which consist of or include a dwelling and are not held under a tenancy to which Part II of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 applies."

Section 48 provides: "(1) A landlord of premises to which this Part applies shall by notice furnish a tenant with an address in England and Wales at which notices ... may be served on him by the tenant.

"(2) Where a landlord of any such premises fails to comply with sub-section (1), any rent ... otherwise due from the tenant to the landlord shall ... be treated for all purposes as not being due from the tenant to the landlord at any time before the landlord does comply with that sub-section."

Mr David Neuberger, QC and Ms Joanne Moss for the landlord; Mr Edward Bannister, QC and Mr Martin Rodger for the tenant.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that the judge had held that it was necessary to construe the meaning of the word "premises" from the words used in the Act; that it was impossible to regard the Act as having a single purpose or theme which should colour the court's approach to the meaning of the word "premises" in section 46(1) and that it was not possible to identify any context in the Part VI of the Act which pointed to a particular meaning of the word other than the definition in section 46(1).

Since the requirement there was simply that the premises "consist of or include a dwelling" the word "premises" must be taken to have a wider meaning than "dwelling" which word was defined in section 60(1) of the Act as "a building, or part of a building occupied or intended to be occupied as a separate dwelling, together with any yard, garden, outhouses and appurtenances belonging to it or usually enjoyed with it".

Thus the word "premises" could include land which was the subject matter of the same letting: but how much land?

The express exclusion in section 46(1) of business tenancies to which Part II of the 1954 Act applied, showed that the word "premises" could include premises held under such a tenancy.

Part II of the 1954 Act did not apply to tenancies of an agricultural holding by virtue of section 43(1) of that Act. It therefore appeared that Parliament understood that, if tenancies of an agricultural holding were to be excluded from the definition in section 46(1), express provision was necessary.

Nothing in section 46(1) provided any guide which enabled the court to discern any limit to the meaning of the word "premises" narrower than the subject matter of the letting.

Mr Neuberger demonstrated that it was surprising that Parliament should exclude tenancies within Part II of the 1954 Act form the effects of Part VI of the 1987 Act but include therein agricultural tenancies; and he demonstrated that the application of Part VI to agricultural tenancies was left to take effect without any such amendment of or addition to the statutory code applicable to agricultural tenancies as might well had ben devised.

However, he acknowledged that the construction of section 46(1) adopted by the judge could not be shown to produce any clear conflict between the statutory provisions separately or specially applicable to agricultural tenancies on the one hand and the additional or cumulative provisions thus made applicable by section 46(1) of the 1987 Act and section 3 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 on the other hand.

For his Lordship's part he agreed with the judge, substantially for the reasons he gave that the word "premises" in section 46(1) meant the subject matter of the letting.

The effect of that was that the landlord had been obliged to provide the tenant with a notice under section 48(1). His Lordship agreed with the judge that no such notice had been given prior to December 3, 1991.

The next question was whether there was service of an effective notice to pay rent under Case D in Part I of Schedule 3 to the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986. The judge had found that the notice to pay was defective in that it described the outstanding rent as being "due" on dates prior to service of the section 48 notice.

All the rent in respect of which the notice of December 3, 1991 was served was "otherwise due from the tenant" on that date, that is, it was due but for the effect of section 48(2). That provision could be given no effect in derogation of the landlord's legal rights beyond that required by the enactment.

The rent "otherwise due", therefore, was to be treated as not due from the tenant at any time before the landlord complied with section 48(1); but such rent became due at the time when the landlord so complied and continued due thereafter.

In the instant case the rent which was said in the notice to be due from the tenant was in fact due when the notice was served, for those reasons, and, accordingly, the requirement with which the tenant was notified that he must comply was accurately stated.

Did it matter that the notice referred to the quarter days upon which the arrears of rent were unquestionably "otherwise due" as "the date when due" under the particulars of rent not paid? The judge held that to be a fatal inaccuracy. In his Lordship's judgment it was not.

The reference to the dates when due in the schedule to the notice was intended to identify the payments which the landlord asserted had not been made: that was plain on the face of the document and was put beyond question in the context of the correspondence between the parties in which the tenant had raised the question of compliance with section 48 and the landlord had responded by serving a sufficient notice to satisfy the requirements of that section.

In so far as the notice inaccurately asserted that the rent "otherwise due" had been due on and from the quarter days listed, it did not mislead and could not reasonably have misled the tenant in any way.

Furthermore, it did not and could not affect the clarity of the notice as to what the tenant was required to do or what the effect would be if the tenant did not comply with it.

To treat the notice as invalid, therefore, would be to carry the need for strict compliance with the statutory requirement to a length beyond any useful purpose. The statutory purpose of the notice was fully satisfied. On that ground alone the appeal would be allowed.

Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Peter Gibson delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Franks Charlesly & Co; Mills & Reeve, Cambridge.

Multiple use for lawful sample of blood

Regina v Kelt

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr Justice Waterhouse and Mrs Justice Ebsworth

[Judgment December 3]

A sample of blood lawfully obtained from a suspect in connection with one investigation could be compared with blood left at the scene of another serious crime.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in dismissing an appeal by Stephen Kelt against his conviction in March 1990 at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Capstick, QC and a jury) of robbery and possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life for which he was sentenced to concurrent terms of 15 years and 10 years imprisonment respectively.

Section 62 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 provides: "(1) An intimate sample may be taken from a person in police detention only — (a) if a police officer of at least the rank of superintendent authorises it to be taken; and (b) if the appropriate consent is given.

"(2) An officer may only give an authorisation if he has reasonable grounds — (a) for suspecting the involvement of the person from whom the same is to be taken in a serious arrestable offence; and (b) for believing that the sample will tend to confirm or disprove his involvement."

Mr Stephen Batten, QC and Mr A. A. Cameron, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr David Bate for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY, giving the judgment of the court, said that a man named James Watts had participated in five robberies between May and September 1987. In November 1988 he was granted residential informer status and identified Kelt as one of the robbers who took part in the first robbery which was an attack on a Security Express vehicle in Poole, Dorset.

Watts asserted that the appellant was injured in the struggle with the guard and undoubtedly the blood of an injured robber was on a bag of money left behind. There was sufficient blood for it to be analysed.

In November 1988 the appellant was arrested in the course of a murder enquiry. He gave a sample of blood for the purposes of that enquiry but a comparison was then made with the sample from the bag of money and it was found to match.

At the trial, counsel sought unsuccessfully to have that scientific evidence excluded and argued on appeal that the judge was wrong to admit the evidence.

Mr Batten submitted that when intimate samples were obtained, as this sample was obtained, in accordance with the provisions of section 62 of the 1984 Act, such a sample could only be used for the purposes of the enquiry in connection with which it was obtained.

He reminded the court that at common law a citizen was under no duty to provide evidence against himself. That right had been infringed by the section but was carefully restricted by means of a statutory scheme which extended to photographs and fingerprints as well as to blood samples.

Such a sample could not be taken unless a police officer of at least the rank of superintendent authorised it and the person detained consented.

Clearly the inference was that the serious arrestable offence in the mind of the police officer would be one which both he and the person detained knew to be under investigation.

Mr Batten submitted that if a sample once obtained could be used for any purpose the safeguard that such a sample could only be required during the investigation of a serious arrestable offence would be devalued.

He further submitted that once it became clear in the course of the murder enquiry that the blood was all from the deceased the sample obtained from the appellant should have been destroyed, in accordance with the provisions of section 64 of the 1984 Act, and thus his sample should have been destroyed before it was compared with the blood on the money bag from the robbery.

But, as Mr Bate pointed out, the evidence showed that the appellant was still a murder suspect in March 1990, long after all relevant blood comparisons had been made, so according to the Crown the statutory duty to destroy the sample had even then not yet arisen.

In any event, the court was satisfied that despite the warnings of Mr Batten as to the danger of undermining the statutory scheme the words of the statute should not be interpreted as he contended. Of course the police had to act in good faith, but the public interest would not be served if a sample lawfully obtained in connection with one investigation could not be compared with blood left at the scene of another serious crime.

There was force in the arguments which Mr Batten had advanced, but if Parliament had intended that a sample obtained in connection with one enquiry could only be used in evidence in connection with that enquiry, as opposed to envisaging that generally it would only be so used, it could have said so, and it did not.

In their Lordships' judgment the trial judge was right to admit the evidence which established the match between the sample of blood provided by the appellant and the blood left at the scene of the robbery. His appeal was therefore dismissed.

Solicitors: CPS, Central Courts.

Recovering damages for loss of profit

Obagi v Stanborough (Developments) Ltd and Others

Before Mr Justice Blackburne

[Judgment December 10]

A plaintiff could recover damages in respect of a loss of profit which he might, but for a breach of contract by the defendant, have made, without proving, on a balance of probabilities, that he would have made it. But his chance of making it had to be a substantial one, more than a mere speculative possibility.

Mr Justice Blackburne so held in the Chancery Division, in awarding £5 damages to the plaintiff, Mr Nihad Obagi, against Stanborough (Developments) Ltd and three of its directors for breach of clause 12 of a written contract made on March 8, 1984, which required the defendants as soon as reasonably practicable to apply to Wimborne District Council for planning permission for residential development of a site of some 25 acres, locally known as "The Warren" for no fewer than 125 homes there.

If that were achieved, further provisions of the agreement enabled the plaintiff to purchase one-half of the site for £200,000 plus half the defendants' expenses incurred in getting planning permission.

Accordingly, the plaintiff's claim was for damages, measured by the difference between the value of half the site and what he would have had to pay for it: "the appropriate equation".

Mr Roy Vandermeer, QC and Mr Alistair Craig for the plaintiff; Mr James Munby, QC and Mr Peter Village for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE BLACKBURNE, after reviewing the evidence and finding the defendants in breach of clause 12, said that it remained to consider whether, if the defendants had used their best endeavours and had applied for planning permission at any earlier stage, they would either have got it, or if there would at least have been a substantial chance of getting it.

Mr Vandermeer had submitted that the plaintiff's damages should be calculated by applying to the "appropriate equation" whatever percentage chance his Lordship might assess that the defendants would, if clause 12 had been fulfilled, have had of getting the requisite permission.

Mr Munby had invited a simple application of the balance of probabilities.

But in *Mallett v McMonagle* ([1970] AC 166, 176) Lord Diplock had said: "In determining what did happen in the past a court decides on the balance of probabilities. Anything more probable than not it treats as certain.

"But in assessing damages which depend upon its view as to what will happen in the future, or would have happened in the future if something had not happened in the past, the court must make an estimate as to what are the chances ... and reflect those chances, whether they are more or less than even, in the amount of damages which it awards."

That view had since been followed in *Hotson v East Berkshire Area Health Authority* ([1987] AC 750, 785, 792).

His Lordship saw no essential difference between the evaluation of the defendants' chances of getting planning permission, and of the plaintiff's chance of winning a prize in *Chaplin v Hicks* ([1911] 2 KB 786) or of the chance of success in the Fatal Accidents Act claim in *Kitchen v RAFA* ([1958] 1 WLR 563).

But another principle, best summarised by Lord Reid in *Davies v Taylor* ([1974] AC 207) also applied: "... the sole issue is whether that chance or probability was substantial. If it was, it must be evaluated. If it was a mere possibility it must be ignored.

"Many different words could and have been used to indicate the dividing line. I can think of none better than 'substantial' on the one hand, or 'speculative' on the other."

In the *Hotson* case, Lord Justice Dillon (at p 763) had tersely marked what was below that dividing line as "minimal, or a mere speculative possibility".

On the evidence, the plaintiff had failed to establish that even if the defendants had used their best endeavours, their chance of obtaining the requisite planning permission was more than a mere speculative possibility. The plaintiff was accordingly entitled to no more than nominal damages of £5 and had to pay the defendant's costs.

Solicitors: Beale v Co; Paris Smith & Randall, Southampton.

Paying VAT on credit card element

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Kingfisher plc

Before Mr Justice Popplewell

[Judgment November 25]

A holding company which, under section 29 of the Value Added Tax Act 1983, was assessed for VAT as the "representative member" of a group of companies consisting of retail outlets and a consumer credit service which provided a credit card for use by customers of the retail outlets, was entitled to be treated as carrying on both the credit and retail businesses of the group and thus the supply of credit was a supply of self-finance credit which was VAT accountable when the credit service got paid.

Mr Justice Popplewell so held in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise for judicial review of a decision of a VAT tribunal allowing an appeal against assessment by Kingfisher plc.

Mr Nigel Pleming, QC, for the commissioners; Mr David Milne, QC and Mr Andrew Hitchmough for Kingfisher.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that Kingfisher had originally been assessed on the footing that the daily gross takings of retail members should properly include all payments made by customers using the group credit card as though the retailer had received cash for the full amount payable in the same way as if a credit card had been issued by an independent finance house. Kingfisher contended that as the representative member they were liable to account for VAT upon receipt of payments by the credit service.

The case involved not the avoidance of tax but of postponement. It was the commissioners' contention that VAT became payable on the supply of goods to the customer. It was Kingfisher's contention that VAT became payable when they received payment from the credit service.

The commissioners contended that section 29 provided a simplified accounting method whereby supplies of goods and services were disregarded for VAT purposes between members of a group but that it did not create nor was it intended to create a single taxable person for the purpose of VAT.

It was further observed that customers using the store group credit card were really in no different position from customers using a Diners Club or Access Card. If the store credit card was to create a different situation there was undoubtedly an anomaly thereby brought into existence.

Kingfisher accepted that there was an anomaly in relation to the credit card issued by their credit service and a credit card issued by Access but pointed out that the situation was in fact different both in its nature and at law because there was no third party involved.

It also pointed to the anomaly which would be created by the commissioners' argument as, under section 31, if the credit service were one of the divisions as opposed to being a separate company in the same group the commissioners conceded that Kingfisher's argument would be correct.

His Lordship was in no doubt that section 29 should be construed in the way that Kingfisher contended.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise; Lovell White Durrant.

Justices' discretion to ignore technical deficiency

Regina v Mid-Warwickshire Licensing Justices, Ex parte Patel

While licensing justices might exercise a discretion to allow an application where notice requirements were technically deficient and where no one had been misled, that power only arose where the statutory requirements had been fulfilled.

Mr Justice May so held in the Queen's Bench Division on November 24 when granting judicial review to the applicant, Mr Sudhir Gospaldi Patel, and quashing the decision of Mid-Warwickshire Licensing Justices to grant a licence for off-sales to Mr Aurik Singh Thind.

HIS LORDSHIP said that authority made it clear that technical errors or verbal inaccuracies need not defeat a licence application since when they arose the justices might exercise their discretion to grant the licence notwithstanding.

In the instant case, the omissions were neither verbal inaccuracies nor clerical errors but simply a failure to conform with the requirements of paragraph 4(a), (b) and (d) of Schedule 2 to the Licensing Act 1964. The justices did not enquire whether the notices fulfilled those statutory requirements and therefore could not go on to exercise their discretion in the licence applicant's favour.

Seeking stay of execution

Winchester Cigarette Machinery Ltd v Payne and Another (No 2)

Before Lord Justice Ralph Gibson, Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Hobhouse

[Judgment December 10]

In granting a stay of execution of a money judgment a court in the exercise of its unfettered discretion had to start with the assumption that a person should not be stopped from exercising the necessary court procedures in order to have the benefit of the money judgment made in his favour, even though an appeal was pending.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing the application of Mr Michael John Payne and Mrs Gillian Mary Payne for a stay of execution of the money judgment made against them in an action brought by Winchester Cigarette Machinery Ltd (formerly John Payne Engineers Ltd) by Mr Justice Dyson on November 2, 1993 pending their appeal against that money judgment.

Mr Sam Neaman for Mr and Mrs Payne; Miss Catharine Otton-Goulder for Winchester.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that in recent cases it had been said that the practice of the court had moved on from the principle that the only ground for a stay was the reasonable probability that damages and costs paid would not be repaid if the appeal succeeded.

Those cases held that the approach of the court now was a matter of common sense and a balance of advantage.

But in holding any such balance of advantage, full and proper weight had to be given by the court to the starting principle that there had to be a good reason for depriving a plaintiff from obtaining the fruits of a judgment.

In the present case no good or sufficient reason had been made out for the grant of a stay.

Lord Justice McCowan agreed.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE, agreeing, said that since a court had an unfettered discretion no authority could lay down rules but give guidance only.

By the terms of Order 59, rule 13 of the Rules of the Supreme Court an appeal did not operate as a stay on the order appealed against. The appellant had to show some special circumstance which took the case out of the ordinary.

Solicitors: Nicholson Graham & Jones; Bignalls.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Buder Borg Millard Fraser LCR Ltd
Registered Number: 778494
Former company name: Buder Borg & L S W Ltd
Trading Name: Buller Borg Millard Fraser LRC Ltd
Nature of Business: Advertising Agency
Trade Classification: 8640
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver(s): 6 December 1993
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver(s): National Westminster Bank Plc
Names of persons appointed: L A Manning and I P Phillips both of Bacher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, Office Holder Nos: 6477 and 2636

Chas Davy Stevens Limited
Registered Number: 2597725
Former Company Name: Chas. Davy Taylor Limited
Trading Name: Chas Davy
Nature of Business: Printers
Trade Classification: Division 2, Trade Class 10
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver(s): 10 December 1993
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver(s): The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
Names of persons appointed: L A Manning and S V Frensley both of Bacher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, Office Holder Nos. 6477 and 2591

RULE 4.106 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
C & G WHELDON LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
TAKE NOTICE THAT WE, Michael William Vezard and Nigel John Hamilton-Smith of Morton Thornton & Co, Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD, were appointed to act as Joint Liquidators of C & G Wheldon Limited by a Resolution of a Meeting of the company's creditors held on 6 December 1993.
DATED this 6th day of December 1993
M W YOUNG and N J HAMILTON-SMITH - JOINT LIQUIDATORS

H.M. LAND REGISTRY
LOST CERTIFICATES
It is proposed to issue (a) new Certificate to replace (the one) described below that (a) stated to have been lost or destroyed. Anyone possessing (a) missing certificate or objecting to the issue of (a) new one should at once notify The Superintendent District Land Registry of Rose Brae Court, Woodside Ferry Approach, Birkenhead, Merseyside L41 6DU.
Land Certificate, Leasehold Title No NGL 616113. 17A Lathorka Terrace, Kensington SW7. Proprietors, Peter James Lane Fox of Old Vicarage, Lyndhurst Road, Milton-Under-Wychwood, Oxon. Louise Carole Mary Lane Fox and Alan Paton Hillier Hutchinson both of 14 Beech Croft Road, Oxford, Oxon OX2 7AZ.

Multicom Holdings Limited
Registered Number: 1489019
Trading Name: Multicom Holdings Limited
Nature of Business: Holding company
Trade Classification: 9500
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver: National Westminster Bank Plc
Names of persons appointed: L A Manning and I P Phillips both of Bacher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, Office Holder Nos: 6477 and 2636

The Insolvency Act 1986
UNIVERSAL METALWORK LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Terence John Roger F.C.P.A. of Barstead Cheyne, 1-3 Dufferin Street, London EC1Y 8NA, was appointed Liquidator of the said company by the members and creditors on 16th November 1993.
Dated this 9th day of December 1993
R D HEWITT - Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF: VERITY GROUP PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 1st December 1993 confirming the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company standing in the sum of £6,842,628 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 4th December 1993.
DATED this 14th of December 1993.
Davis Arnold Cooper
6-8 Bouverie Street
London EC4Y 8DD
Tel: 071 936 2222
Fax: 071 936 3020
Solicitors for the above named Company

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
MOSTA BUILDING COMPANY (SOUTH EAST) LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 10 December 1993 I, Robert D Hewitt was appointed Joint Liquidator of the above named company which is in Creditors' Voluntary Winding Up, by the Members and by the Creditors of the Company.
Creditors who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to me at the Harlowind address: 5 Park Court, Pyford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6RD before the 7th January 1994.
R D HEWITT - JOINT LIQUIDATOR

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
No. 009566 of 1993
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER of COMP-U-CARD LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 4th day of November 1993 presented to the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £500,000 to £350,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th day of January 1994.
Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the capital of the Company should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished by any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 8th day of December 1993
RAYNER, DE WOLFE
31 Southampton Row
London WC1B 5HJ
Ref Dis/01/G02111
Solicitors for the above named Company

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Fixtype Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above-named company will be held at Kings House, 36/37 King Street, London EC2V 8BH on the Twentieth (20th) day of December 1993 at 11.30 am for the purposes of thereby fix, if nominating a Liquidator and of appointing a Liquidation Committee. Any proxy to be used at the meeting must be lodged at Kings House, 36/37 King Street, London EC2V 8BH not later than 12 noon on the business day before the meeting. A statement of claim must also be lodged.
NOTICE is also given that, for the purpose of voting, accepted creditors must produce they surrender their security) lodge a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which they estimate it.
A list of the names and addresses of the creditors of the above-named company may be inspected at the offices of Frost & Young, Bexhill House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the meeting.
Dated 1 December 1993
For and on behalf of
BCMR Corporate Director Limited
as a Director of Fixtype Limited
W Hanlon - Director

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TO PLACE ALL YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS PLEASE CALL DEBRA GYNN
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هكذا من الأصل

Word has it that the Princess of Wales might be on the move from Kensington Palace. **Rachel Kelly** reviews the options open to her

A house fit for a shy Princess

Unaccustomed as they are to keeping quiet, for once the nation's estate agents are staying mum. The reason? The Princess of Wales is reported to be hunting for a new house as part of her withdrawal from public life. Every Knight Frank & Rutley hopes to be her agent.

Discretion, therefore, is paramount. Estate agency boards have been sworn to secrecy; code names are much in evidence. Though agents will talk off the record as to where Her Royal Highness might buy, and hint as to where she is said to have looked, few will be quoted. The phenomenon is even more acute when it comes to buying agents: companies such as Property Vision and Wilson & Wilson who work by advising buyers, not sellers. Enquiries are greeted with a strict "No comment". They all hope to be in for a slice of the royal action.

Officially Buckingham Palace says the Princess has no plans to move and will stay at Kensington Palace. Unofficially, the Princess is believed to be looking for two homes: one in London, and one in the country. Both would have to have extensive staff quarters to house her private court of seven ladies-in-waiting, two cooks, two chambermaids, a butler, chauffeur, house keeper, dresser, royal equerry, bodyguard and nanny. Money is no object. The Prince is expected to provide.

Her search will be conducted in secret. John Hunter, the developer behind some of London's most expensive houses, explains how buyers such as the Princess usually operate. "One way is to have a 'runner' working for you who draws up a shortlist," he says. Runners could be friends, preferably rich, who might be buying for themselves and thus could keep the paparazzi off the scent. The Princess's friend Kate Menzies, herself an heiress, has been mentioned as the perfect candidate.

Property-buying companies would work in much the same way, drawing up a shortlist of suitable homes, complete with photographs and floor-plans.

Once the Princess had chosen her home, the Queen would have to approve it. Then Royal Protection Squad officers would have to assess security, advising on alarm systems and bomb-proofing. The Princess would probably preserve her anonymity by buying through a company. She is likely to allow for months of work on the house — indulging her love of decorating — before she finally moves in.

> She is said to wish to avoid the 'Royal Triangle'

Her choice of a country home will probably be dictated more by her own family than by her in-laws. She is said by friends to wish to avoid the so-called "Royal Triangle" of the Princess Royal's home at Gatcombe Park, the Nether Lypiatt retreat of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, and Highgrove. She needs to be close to her sons, at Ludgrove School in Berkshire, and then at Eton. Northamptonshire is one option: not too far from Berkshire and close to her brother, Earl Spencer.

The Princess might build in the grounds of Althorp, her brother's 8,000-acre estate in Northamptonshire. By building a home from scratch, the Princess would be able to ensure that the requisite security measures were incorporated. The estate is already surrounded by a high stone wall.

Or she could take an apartment in the house itself, or move to one of the houses on the estate. The Princess's bodyguards have checked security at the Falconry, a Gothic folly in the grounds where Earl Spencer and his wife began their married life, and the Garden House, a four-bedroom house on the estate. But such checks could be simply for royal visits.

A second option would be to live in Lincolnshire near her sister Sarah, who has been playing an increasingly important role in the Princess's life as a lady-in-waiting. Local agents are buzzing with talk of "sightings". Or she might move abroad. Earlier this year the Princess was said to have bought a restored farmhouse close to Saint Remy-de-Provence, where Princess Caroline of Monaco has a home. But the rumour was just a publicity stunt by the owner.

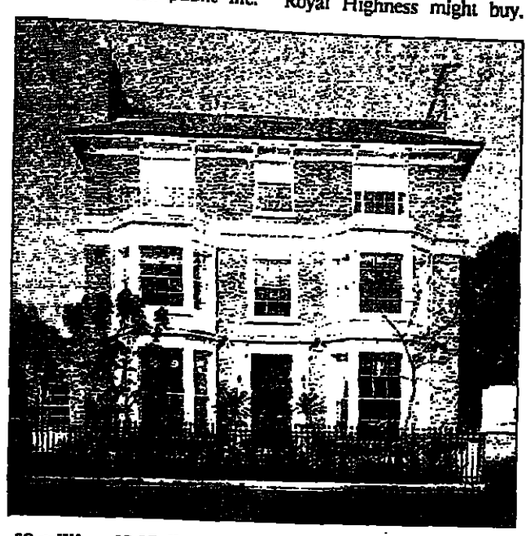
In London, the Princess would want to remain close to her favourite haunts: San Lorenzo Restaurant in Beauchamp Place, the Vanderbilt Racquet Club further west in Sterne Street, and Catherine Walker, the dress designer in Sydney Street.

One option, widely rumoured, would be a house in Ennismore Gardens, once home to the singer George Michael and the late Hollywood screen legend, Ava Gardner. Peter Young, from the agent John D. Wood, suggests a flat in Kensington Palace Gardens at 3a Palace Green. "Security is good and they are in good condition. The only problem is that they might be too close to what will then be her former residence."

Or there is a very pretty house at 7 Melbury Road, for £1.95 million; Number 9 Holland Park for £6.5 million; 19 Upper Phillimore Gardens for £7.5 million; and 18 Holland Villas Road for £8 million, Mr Young suggests.

Robert Bailey, at Strutt & Parker, also points to 18 Holland Villas Road. He further recommends the Old Rectory in Chelsea, on sale for £25 million. Lassmans suggests 59 Melbury Road, and 20 The Vale, Chelsea.

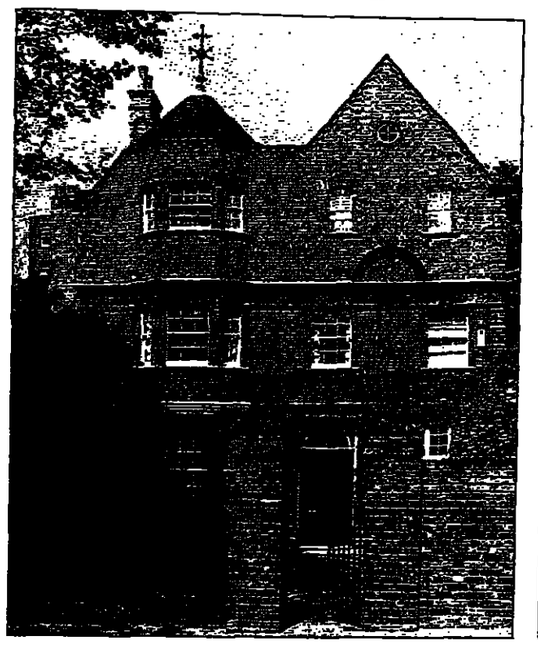
Mr Hunter believes that the easiest option for the Princess would be to build from scratch, working with a developer, such is the complexity of her security needs. She would thereby avoid the need to go through an estate agent. That would really silence them.



£8 million: 18 Holland Villas Road offers video-camera surveillance, a pool and a private gymnasium



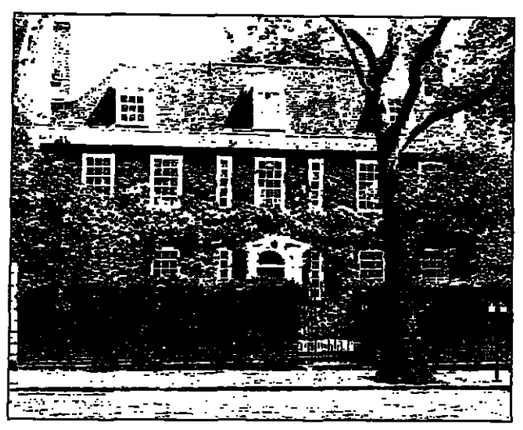
£7.5 million: 19 Upper Phillimore Gardens has a full size indoor swimming pool, gymnasium and spa bath



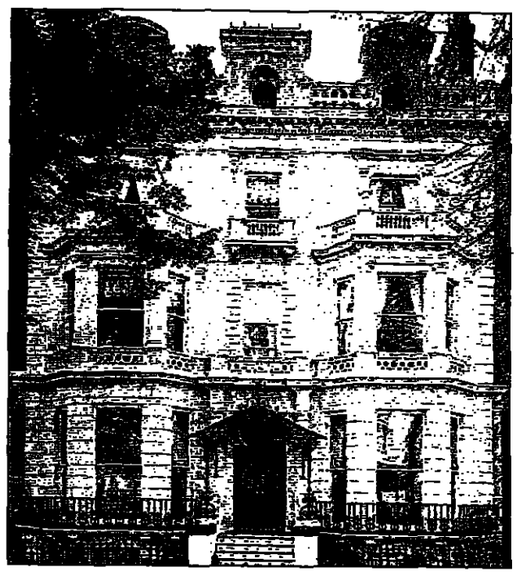
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FULHAM - A secretary/office manager with maturity, confidence and a sense of fun is needed to work in this friendly, if hectic, traditional estate agency. Shorthand and word typing skills are essential. Age 25+, £14,500. Please telephone 071 726 9491. Angela Mortimer Rec Cons.

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£18,500 Sec to Finance Director, Retail Plc. NW9. SH/WP 80 /60. 081 209 1858 Fleur Agy.

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TRADING co seeks exp'd secretary age 19-28yrs). North London based. £12,000. Merrow Agy 071 499 3939

TEMPTING TIMES

PART TIME Secretary required 3 days per week for maternity leave booking at finance house in EC2. Use your excellent Wordperfect 5.1 skills for presentations and your organisational flair for keeping a smooth-running office. Skills 80/60/wp, age 22-28. Start date - 10/1/94. Please telephone Victoria Harrington on 071 377 9919 for further details. Holstone Recruitment Consultants.

TEMPORARY secretary required for long term assignment for financial company based in EC3. Senior level experience and Word for Windows essential. Shorthand and Excel would be a bonus. £10 per hour. Please call Cross Selection on 071 377 6500.

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Brooksfield's crew reaches port unaided after surviving alert in stormy seas

Italian yacht sails in to emotional reunion

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN FREMANTLE

BROOKSFIELD, the Italian yacht which sparked a rescue operation in the Southern Ocean 12 days ago, reached here yesterday after her crew, led by Guido Maisto, completed the 7,500-mile second leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race without the need of outside assistance.

There was no mistaking from the tearful reunion with crew members of the French yacht, La Poste, who stood by them for 24 hours until Maisto and his crew could stem the waters that threatened to sink the yacht, that the Italians felt lucky to be alive. Recalling the moments after Brooksfield's rudder shaft was broken by a freak wave and the crew put out an emergency signal, Maisto said: "It was possible that the stern could break up at any time. I had the safety of my crew to consider. It was very important to have some assistance as soon as possible."

More than three tons of water flooded into the boat before the crew could cut away the broken rudder and seal the 35cm-wide hole with a sail bag and bucket. "There was no panic, but it was not a very good feeling. We closed the watertight door, so knew the boat would stay afloat," Maisto said. "We used the bilge pumps and buckets but could not reduce the level of water in the boat for three to four hours until we had fixed the hole."

Andrea Proto, one of Brooksfield's watch-leaders, said: "People were up to their chests in water which was very, very cold. We also had a lot of debris floating, fenders, ropes and sail bags, which we had to clear out to stop them hitting everyone."

After failing to cut the steering quadrant and release the broken shaft, the crew hoisted a storm jib and gybed the boat two or three times and the pressure from the water finally led to the rudder breaking off. The hole was plugged with a sail bag, a bucket wrapped in foam taken from a bunk and jammed in place with the aid of floorboards and the jockey pole which they poked up through the hole in the deck where the rudder post had been.

Maisto said of La Poste's efforts to stand by his yacht during the 70-knot storm that followed: "It was good to have them nearby because we were feeling very vulnerable and not absolutely sure that the repair was strong enough. We could still have had to leave the boat."

Nine hours earlier, Dawn Riley's Women's Challenge had swept into port here a much happier crew than the group that reached Punta del Este, led by Nance Frank. Riley, who took over from Frank after a crew mutiny, said: "The first week and a half had been the worst and the last week the best. I didn't realise how hard it would be. These boats are tough to handle, but when conditions got really bad, you rise to the occasion."

The crew fell four days behind the leaders when their mainsail tore. Riley, who had been a watch-leader aboard Tracy Edwards's Maiden in the last race four years ago, said: "These Whitbread 60s are a heck of a lot faster. When you are travelling at 20 knots, the potential for damage in wipeouts is great. The steering is trickier too, not because it is heavier but because there is such a fine line. The boat is not as forgiving. If you make a mistake you know it right away." And will there be more crew changes before the next leg to Auckland? "No. The strongest boats are those that keep their crew. It has taken four weeks to build up a really good team and we don't want to destroy that."

There was far less unison aboard the Ukrainian entry, Hetman Sahaidachny, when her crew arrived. Eugene Platon, the skipper, said: "I am very disappointed with the performance of the boat and the crew. I intend to change at least one and maybe two crewmen. I need a good helmsman," he said.

The international jury is still considering the amount of redress to give to La Poste and the American yacht, Winston, for the time lost going to the aid of Brooksfield. A ruling is expected today.



Maisto, the skipper of Brooksfield, is greeted by his relieved fiancée, Laura di Benadetto, in Fremantle yesterday

POSITIONS

SECOND-LEG FINISHERS: Whitbread 60s: 1, Intrum Justitia (L Smith, Eur) 25days 14hr 39min, 2, Tokio (C Dickson, NZ) 25:16:39; 3, Yamaha (R Field, NZ) 25:20:27; 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) 25:22:10; 5, Winston (S Butterworth, US) 25:12:08; 6, Hetman Sahaidachny (E Platon, Ukr) 29:18:29, 7, Women's Challenge (D Riley, US) 30:01:29; 8, Brooksfield (G Maisto, It) 30:10:26. Overall: 1, Tokio, 50:03:07; 2, Intrum Justitia, 50:17:19; 3, Yamaha, 50:17:58; 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova, 50:18:41, 5, Winston, 51:11:58 (subject to redress); 6, Brooksfield, 56:14:33; 7, Women's Challenge, 57:20:53; 8, Hetman Sahaidachny, 58:01:02. Masts: 1, Merit Cup (P Fehlmann, Switz) 25:21:11; 2, NZ Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 25:22:57, 3, La Poste (D Malle, Fr) 29:04:29. Overall: 1, NZ Endeavour, 50:06:16; 2, Merit Cup, 50:12:53, 3, La Poste 54:22:33.

STILL AT SEA (at 07:55 GMT yesterday, with miles to Fremantle): Whitbread 60s: 9, Odessa (A Verbe, Ukr) 425, 10, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB) 514. Masts: 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vanzini, Uru) 348

☐ *Information provided by BT*

Steelers win to keep pressure on leaders

LEROY Thompson's two short touchdown runs helped the Pittsburgh Steelers to build a 15-point lead on Monday night, and the Steelers held on to beat the Miami Dolphins 21-20 in Miami.

Rod Woodson finally sealed the win with 10 seconds to play when he picked off a pass at midfield when the Dolphins were desperately trying to get into range for a field goal.

The Steelers improved to 8-5 and stayed within a game of the Houston Oilers, who are leading the Central division of the American Football Conference. Pittsburgh are home to Houston at the weekend. Miami, meanwhile, fell back into a tie with Buffalo for the AFC East lead at 9-4. Dolphins and Bills will also meet this weekend.

In addition, the New York Jets are now only a game away from leading the AFC East despite having gone four games without a touchdown.

☐ Jeff Alm, the Houston Oilers player, committed suicide yesterday after surviving a car crash which killed his passenger, Sean Lynch. Alm shot himself in the head soon after the accident.

Juventus enjoy domestic draw

BY KEITH PIKE

JUVENTUS, bidding to become only the third side to retain the Uefa Cup in 36 years of the competition, remain favourites to extend Italy's recent domination of the tournament after the quarter-final draw was made in Geneva yesterday.

One of three Italian sides in the last eight, Juventus were paired with their *Serie A* rivals, Cagliari, and have the advantage of playing the first leg in Sardinia.

Internazionale, who ended Norwich City's brave resistance in the last round, must play Borussia Dortmund, the German side that was overwhelmed 6-1 on aggregate in the final by Juventus last year. The draw was kinder, though, to the other two German qualifiers, with Eintracht Frankfurt playing Casino Salzburg, of Austria, and Karlsruhe SC taking on the emerging Portuguese side, Boavista.

Italian clubs have contested the last five Uefa Cup finals, winning four times, with Napoli, in 1989, and Internazionale (1991) adding to Juventus's triumphs of 1990 and 1993. With Roberto Baggio, who scored two of their goals in the final last season, in such outstanding form, the Turin club, presently fourth in the Italian league, will be strongly fancied to reach the semi-finals.

Internazionale were originally drawn to play the first leg of their game against Borussia at the Giuseppe Meazza Stadium, but the game was switched to avoid a clash with AC Milan's European Cup Champions' League game against another German team, Werder Bremen. Despite the obvious talents of Bergkamp, of Holland, and Sosa, the Uruguayan forward, Inter struggled to subdue Norwich, but may still prove too strong for Borussia, who have slipped to tenth place in the German league after enjoying a good start to the season.

The first leg of the tie between Boavista and Karlsruhe was also reversed, much to the delight of the Germans, who are enjoying their first European campaign. "It's a good draw for us but I wouldn't say our chances are any better than 50-50," the Karlsruhe president, Roland Schmider, said.

DRAW

UEFA CUP: Quarter-final: Borussia Dortmund (Ger) v Internazionale (It); Cagliari (It) v Juventus (It); Eintracht Frankfurt (Ger) v Casino Salzburg (Austria); Boavista (Por) v Karlsruhe SC (Ger).
First legs to be played on March 2 or 3; second legs on March 16 or 17.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL): Pittsburgh 21 Miami 20.

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: British under-24 championship: First round (GB unless stated): First round: P Paterson bt A Knibbs 6-2, 6-2; B McFarlane (Aus) bt N Baker 6-1, 6-1; D Reid w/o A MacKeown scr; C Swallow bt S Lewi (Aus) 6-4, 6-2; J Acheson-Gray bt T Bristowe 6-1, 6-0

CLUB MATCH: Leamington bt The Army 3-2 (Army names first): I Park-Weir bt M Partridge 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; S Allison bt B Jury 6-4, 6-5; J Disley lost to A Meanley 2-6, 6-5, 3-6; J Agar lost to H Delton 1-6, 1-6; P Watts lost to N Hyde 5-6, 6-2, 3-6.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: British public schools' championship: Jim Dear Cup (junior colts): First round: A Cox (Harrow) bt S Jackson (Winchester) 15-4, 15-2; T Hale (Cheltenham) bt C van der Gucht (Radley) 15-11, 15-10; A Clowes (Wellington) bt R Hannay (Clifton) 17-14, 15-4; A Bird (Marlborough) bt C Wilson (Harrow) 15-10, 15-4; F Miller (Marlborough) bt P Atkinson (Clifton) 15-9, 15-5; S Fairbairn (Cheltenham) bt L Fitzwilliams (Harrow) 18-17, 15-5; T Gordon (Tonbridge) bt T Seymour-Meade (Malvern) 15-11, 15-6; H Loudon (Eton) bt A Philipson (Tonbridge) 15-4, 15-0; T Hughes (Cheltenham) bt A Smith (Charterhouse) 15-11, 15-2; B Dean (Radley) bt N Kinder (Wellington) 15-0, 15-0.

HENDERSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: Eton 1 Harrow 1 (Eton names first): W Boone and M Hue Williams bt C Hue Williams and H Foster 15-3, 15-9, 15-11; J Sheffield and R Neame lost to A Orchard and D Dick 8-15, 15-8, 11-15, 4-15. Eton win on games.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New Jersey 110 Miami 105 (2OT); Boston 112 Philadelphia 107; Phoenix 112 Milwaukee 104; Utah 102 San Antonio 87.

BOXING

KYOTO, Japan: WBC flyweight championship (12 rnds): Yuri Arbachakov (Russ, holder) bt Cha Nam-Hoon (S Kor) pts.

FOOTBALL

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Third division: Postponed: Lincoln City v Colchester United.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal 2 Luton 3; West Ham 1 Crystal Palace 1.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Postponed: Sheffield Utd v Blackburn.

Late results on Monday

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Norwich City 2 Leeds United 1.

DRINKWISE CUP: Quarter-final: Dagenham and Redbridge 1 Yeovil Town 2.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Sporting Lisbon 1 Belm Mar 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: President's Cup: Ashton 4 Morecambe 8

PONTINS LEAGUE: Second division: Preston 3 West Bromwich 2.

DIADORA LEAGUE: League Cup: Third round: Postponed: Carshalton v Bishop's Stortford.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Millwall 2 Norwich 1. Postponed: Bristol C v Charlton League Cup: Bournemouth 2 Plymouth 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): New York Rangers 2 Buffalo 0; Quebec 5 Washington 3; Ottawa 5 Los Angeles 2.

RIFLE SHOOTING

NSRA COUNTY RIFLE MATCHES (postal): BSA Cup (teams of 20; short range): 1, Surrey 3,913pts; 2, Hampshire 3,911; 3, Middlesex 3,907. Miss Charles Lawe Trophy (women's teams of 10; short range): 1, Hampshire 1,932; 2, Sussex 1,928; 3, Bedfordshire 1,925. Women's teams of five (long range): 1, Surrey 1,928; 2, Lothian 1,927; 3, Warwickshire 1,918.

RUGBY LEAGUE

REGAL TROPHY: Third round: Castleford 54 Leigh 14

RUGBY UNION

COURAGE LEAGUE: Leading scorers: First division: 103pts: R Andrew (Wasps; 2 tries, 9 conversions, 24 penalty goals, 1 dropped goal). 90: J Harris (Leicester; 11, 5c, 17pg, 8dg). 89: J Callard (Bath; 2t, 14c, 17pg). 84: P Grayson (Northampton, 2t, 7c, 19pg, 1dg) 78: K Bray (Harlequins; 1t, 4c, 21pg). 68: M Tainton (Bristol; 7c, 18pg). 50: S Langford (Orrell; 4c, 14pg). 87: P Burke (London Irish; 2c, 10pg, 1dg). 36: D Johnson (Newcastle Gosforth; 1c, 11pg); T Smith (Gloucester; 4c, 9pg)

Second division: 98: J Stabler (West Hartlepool; 1t, 15c, 19pg, 2dg). 87: G Gregory (Nottingham; 1t, 2c, 23pg, 3dg). 86: R Lacy (Wakefield; 1t, 9c, 21pg). 70: A Tunningley (Saracens; 2t, 6c, 16pg). 67: P Rutledge (Otley; 2t, 3c, 17pg). 66: M Mapletoft (Rugby; 4t, 5c, 11pg, 1dg); P Turner (Sale; 12c, 13pg, 1dg).

SKIING

PIANCAVALLO, Italy: Freestyle World Cup: Ballet: Men: 1, F Becker (Fr) 25.05pts, 2, R Kristiansen (Nor) 24.40; 3, H Baumgartner (Switz) 23.80. British: 21, M Fieldan 16.20. Women: 1, E Batalova (Russ) 26.30; 2, E Breen (US) 24.05; 3, J Witte (Holl) 22.65.

SNOOKER

ANTWERP: European Open: First round: J White (Eng) bt N Noppachorn (Thai) 5-1; S Davis (Eng) bt D Fowler (Eng) 5-1, A Drago (Malta) bt N Foulds (Eng) 5-3; M Clark (Eng) bt C Small (Scot) 5-2; D Roe (Eng) bt D O'Kane. (NZ) 5-1; A McManus (Scot) bt G Wilkinson (Eng) 5-1, D Morgan (Wales) bt N Williams (Wales) 5-4; J Wattana (Thai) bt N Bennett (Wales) 5-1.

SQUASH

BOMBAY: Mahindra International challenge: Qualifying round: Group A: P Whitlock (Eng) bt B Martin (Aus) 15-11, 15-14, 15-13; S Elopuro (Fin) bt R Eyles (Aus) 15-12, 15-11, 15-7. Group B: P Marshall (Eng) bt R Norman (NZ) 15-10, 15-9, 15-8.

SRA NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: ICI-PMD Herts 3 Leekes Wizards 1 (Herts names first): M Chaloner bt I Wiens 7-9, 10-9, 9-2, 9-1; J Wellings bt D Harris 6-9, 9-7, 9-2, 9-4; J Raumolin lost to A Davies 8-10, 8-10, 2-9, C Clare bt G Davies 4-9, 9-6, 9-2, 9-2. Rackets Club 4, WF Village Manchester 0 (Rackets names first): A Hands bt P Gregory 9-2, 9-0, 9-0, P Johnson bt M Cairns 9-0, 9-7, 9-5, 9-1; D Webb bt D Campion 9-2, 9-4, 9-0; J Ransome bt N Taylor 9-5, 9-5, 9-3. Manchester Northern 3, Lingfield 1 (Manchester names first): C van der Wath lost to S Meads 9-3, 9-4, 6-9, 8-10, 3-9, P Lord bt A Kirkland 9-1, 9-4, 9-6; D Ryan bt M Allen 4-9, 5-9, 9-7, 9-3, 9-6; G Thwaite bt T Garner 4-9, 1-9, 9-4, 9-2, 9-7. Leading positions: 1, Manchester Northern 21pts; 2, Rackets Club 17. 3, ICI-PMD Herts 14.

TENNIS

VAUXHALL INDOOR TROPHY: Men: Third round: David Lloyd Renfrew w/o Tennis World Middlesbrough scr; Barnard Castle School 2 Puma Sunderland 1; Hallamshire Sheffield w/o Graves Sheffield scr; Carisbrooke Leicester 2 Lincoln Indoor 1; Clearview Bromwood w/o Harpenden scr; David Lloyd Chigwell 3 Puma Welwyn 0. Connaught 0 Welwyn Spin 3; Hazelwood 0 David Lloyd Bushey 3; Roehampton 3 Middlesex University 0; Carlton 0 David Lloyd Finchley 3, Royal Berkshire 3 Chris Lane Woking 0; David Lloyd Heston 3 Telford Park Streatham 0. Delta Swindon 1 Walton Astros 2. Surrey Country Club 1 Windmill Hill 2, Pavilion and Avenue Howe 1 Sutton Junior B 2; Deal 0 David Lloyd Eastbourne 3, Paddangley Bromley 2 Sutton Junior A 1; Bourne Fernham 3 Kingsley 0; Centrecourt Basingstoke 1 West Hants Bournemouth 2.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
AUSTRIA							
Kitzbühel	20	60	good	varied	fair	snow 3	14/12
More snow falling, though a little wet low down							
Obergurgl	40	80	good	powder	good	snow 2	14/12
Snow falling for most of the day, visibility very poor							
St Anton	35	115	fair	varied	fair	snow 2	14/12
Varied skiing as many skiers on few open runs							
FRANCE							
Chamonix	40	200	n/a	n/a	n/a	snow 1	14/12
Lifts opening on December 17, prospects excellent							
Tignes	65	255	good	powder	good	snow 5	14/12
Excellent skiing everywhere, visibility poor							
Val d'Isère	65	120	good	powder	good	snow 1	14/12
Excellent powder skiing all day							
Val Thorens	100	220	good	powder	good	snow 3	14/12
Yet more fresh snow overnight and today							
ITALY							
Cervinia	40	300	good	varied	good	snow 1	14/12
Excellent skiing, though visibility very poor							
SWITZERLAND							
Crans	25	90	good	powder	closed	snow 1	14/12
Not many lifts open yet but snow depths building							
Davos	40	110	good	powder	good	snow 0	14/12
Yet more fresh snow falling							
Verbier	20	125	good	powder	good	fair 0	14/12
At least another 20cm of powder overnight							
UNITED STATES							
Mammoth	60	90	good	varied	good	snow 3	14/12
Most lifts opening this weekend							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Cup

Second round, replay

Nuneaton v Bournemouth (7.45).....

Coca-Cola Cup

Fourth round, replays

Manchester City v Notts Forest (7.45)..
Portsmouth v Peterborough (7.45) .....

Scottish League

Premier division

Hearts v Motherwell .....

First division

Falkirk v Morton .....
Hamilton v Stirling.....

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa v Sheffield Wed (7.00); Newcastle v Everton (7.00); Wolves v Coventry (7.00); York v Sunderland (7.00). Liverpool v Bolton (7.00). Second division: Barnsley v Hull (7.00); Huddersfield v Middlesbrough; Scunthorpe v Rotherham (7.00).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Oxford Utd v Millwall; Southampton v Bristol City; Swindon v Bristol Rovers; Tottenham v Charlton (2.00). Wimbledon v Ipswich (2.00). Second division: Swansea v Exeter (2.00); Torquay v Bournemouth; Yeovil v Barnet/Wyvern (7.45)

League Cup: Hereford v Cheltenham.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Second division: Edgware v Rainham League Cup: Third round: Chesham v Grays. Second round, replay: Harrow v Thame.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division cup: Altrincham v Curzon Ashton.

SOUTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Dr Martens Cup: Third round: Salisbury v Trowbridge; Tonbridge v Margate.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fourth round: Flint v Briton Ferry; Inter Cardiff v Porthcawl.

SOUTHERN JUNIOR FLOODLIT CUP: Norwich v Chelsea.

BASKETBALL

LEAGUE TROPHY: Semi-finals, second legs (first leg scores in brackets): Leicester (74) v Manchester (88) (8.00). Thames Valley (88) v Worthing (94) (8.00)

BOXING

BRITISH WELTERWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP: Del Bryan (Nottingham, holder) v Derek Granger (Bethnal Green) . (at Dagenham).

ICE HOCKEY

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Great Britain v Denmark (at Blackburn).

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Hunslet v Batley (postponed); Bramley v Keighley (postponed). London Crusaders v Swinton (postponed). Dewsbury v Doncaster.

RUGBY UNION

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Middlesex Clubs v Combined London Old Boys (at Harrow).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Denmark provide international test

GREAT Britain's build-up to pool A of the world ice hockey championships, to be staged in Italy next April, begins with games against Denmark in Blackburn tonight and Humberside tomorrow (Norman de Mesquita writes). However, it is impossible to know in advance how significant a test these games will be, as the Danish team is something of an unknown quantity.

Soren True, who had been appointed captain, has withdrawn from the squad because of differences with the Danish Federation and most of the players are said to be young and relatively inexperienced at international level. One exception is George Galbraith, 39, a Canadian-born goaltender, who is being given a chance to re-establish himself having last played for Denmark in 1988.

Their preparation is hardly ideal as most of the players were involved in domestic cup games last night and they are not due to fly in until this morning. The Great Britain squad has been affected by some late withdrawals with the Cardiff players unavailable for the game tomorrow.

Ghanaian protest

FOOTBALL: Ghana's football association yesterday protested against a suspension issued by the sport's ruling body in Africa. The African Football Confederation (CAF) banned both Ghana and Ivory Coast until further notice last Friday as punishment for football-inspired rioting that left at least 23 people dead in November. The trouble started on October 31, when players and supporters of ASEC Abidjan were attacked by the crowd in Kumasi, Ghana.

The Ivory Coast club was knocked out of the African Champions' Cup semi-finals by Asante Kotoko, of Ghana. The attacks sparked riots in Ivory Coast in which 23 Ghanaiansdied and 117 were injured. One effect of the CAF ban is the sudden interest in recruiting Kotoko's best players, including the firward, Joe Okyere, who has joined Africa's new champion club, Zamalek, of Cairo, while George Arthur has had offers from other Egyptian clubs.

Scotland ring changes

BOWLS: Scotland have made five changes in their team to defend the women's home international indoor championship at Blackpool next March. Left out of the side that won the title at Perth earlier this year are Jane Brooksby, of Falkirk, Grace McGregor, of Edinburgh, Isabel McPhee, of Coatbridge, Margaret Ritchie, of Lanarkshire, and Wilma Milne, from Glasgow. There are three newcomers, with Margaret Flannigan, of Cowal, and Frances Haxton, from Whiteinch, going straight into the side and Jackie McFarlane, of Edinburgh, on the reserves' bench.

Surrey consider Willis

CRICKET: Bob Willis, the former England captain, is among the leading candidates being considered by Surrey for the post of director in charge of cricket policy. Last month Geoff Arnold was dismissed as coach by the county, which has been troubled by internal disputes recently, prompting Alec Stewart to say he would not make a decision about continuing in the role of captain until they were resolved. Three other former Surrey players, Robin Jackman, Ian Greig and Grahame Clinton, the assistant coach, have also been linked with the post.

Hounslow cup draw

HOCKEY: Hounslow, the holders, Teddington, last year's runners-up, and Southgate have drawn away matches in the fifth round of the Hockey Association Cup on January 16. Hounslow face the strongest opposition against East Grinstead although Teddington could also have a hard match with Surbiton, the second division leaders. Southgate, however, are expected to prevail over St Albans.

DRAW: Beeston v Warrington; Bournville or Ilsca v Old Loughtonians or City of Portsmouth; Bromley or Coventry and North Warwickshire v Stowerport or Havant; East Grinstead v Hounslow; Harrogate v Bloxwich or Trojans; Reading v Cannock; St Albans v Southgate; Surbiton v Teddington.

Whitlock celebrates

SQUASH: Philip Whitlock achieved the best victory of his career when he beat the top seed and world No 4, Brett Martin, of Australia, in a qualifying group match in the Mahindra International Squash Challenge in Bombay last night. Whitlock swept to victory in 43 minutes, winning 15-11, 15-14, 15-13 and will now face Sami Elopuro, of Finland, with a semi-final place at stake. Peter Marshall, from Nottingham, beat the former world champion, Ross Norman, of New Zealand 15-10, 15-9, 15-6 in a 44-minute encounter in the other group.

Gordon Hudson

RUGBY UNION: Gordon Hudson, a flanker who played more than 300 times for Gloucester in an 18-year playing career, has died at the age of 76. Hudson, who played twice for England during the war years, joined the club in 1935 and appeared in 312 first-team games, scoring 72 tries.

☐ Ned Barry, a former All Black, has died at the age of 88. He played ten games for New Zealand between 1932 and 1934. His son, Kevin, was also an All Black and his grandson, Liam Barry, played for New Zealand on their recent British tour.

Unser's new venture

MOTOR RACING: Al Unser, who has won the Indianapolis 500 on four occasions, will drive at Phoenix and Indianapolis next year for the newly-formed AMS Racing team of Indianapolis. Unser, 54, who will drive a 1994 Lola powered by a Cosworth X-B engine, will begin testing in January and make his debut for the team in Phoenix on April 10. Joe Kennedy, co-owner with Neil McNeice and Jeff Sinden, said yesterday: "As of right now, it's just for Phoenix and Indianapolis, but that could change depending on sponsorship we acquire."

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

LOGAEODIC
(c) The epithet of various metres in which dactyls are combined with trochees, from the Greek *logos* the word, speech + *aoidē* song (as standing between the rhythm of prose and of poetry; Jebb, *Oedipus Tyrannus*, 1888: "The essential difference between choreic and logaeodic rhythm is that of ictus."

MONANDROUS
(c) Having only one male mate at a time. From the Greek *monos* only + *anēr, andros* a male. It is possible to be both monandrous and promiscuous, depending on the length of time: "The queen is monandrous. Is she promiscuous? — Well, put it like this, it is a miracle that she is monandrous at any single moment."

DIAMANTIFEROUS
(b) Diamond yielding, from the French *diamant* a diamond + Latin *ferre* to bear or yield: "Do not argue. Peter may be younger and richer and more handsome, and unmarried. But Christopher is simply diamantiferous."

EUMORPHOUS
(b) Well-shaped, lissome, having the shape that is standard or excellent in its class, from the Greek *eu* well + *morphē* shape or form: "He is as thick as Friar Tuck, and as shallow as Maid Marion, but even you must admit that physically at least he is eumorphous."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 ... Qxh4+ 2 gxh4 Rh3 mate.

Most improved golfer of 1993 on target to achieve her aim to be the world's best

Gunner Johnson keeps shooting towards the top

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT


MARC ASPLAND

Johnson with the tools of her trade. They helped her to two successive victories on the US tour and a place among the top ten women golfers in the game

Tea chests were packed and standing in the hall. Bookcases had been emptied. The walls were bare. Trish Johnson would shortly move out of the flat she had owned for less than two years. Her departure seemed premature, but the haste was the result of a stunning golfing year, her best, which ended in Tampa, Florida, on December 5.

Successive victories on the US tour in April have placed Johnson, 27, among the best golfers in the world. Her reward was to buy a £150,000 townhouse in Strawberry Hill, west London, with four bedrooms, a tiny garden and a garage. "No, I'm no good at do-it-yourself," she said. "What's the point of paying to have somebody do it all for you and then you come along and muck it up?"

Johnson would rather go and watch Arsenal. Actually, she would rather go and watch Arsenal than do most things, including, sometimes, golf. She owns a lifetime bond that entitles her to buy a season ticket at Highbury. And for most of the home games she takes her seat in the north stand, cheering and sighing, booing and laughing. "I've got three brothers, all older," she said. "Two are normal and support Arsenal. The third is subnormal and supports Spurs."

The career of this Arsenal enthusiast, the most improved professional golfer of 1993, neatly mirrors the women's professional tour in Europe. She turned professional in 1987, heady days for the women's tour, and won three of that season's 27 events.

Slowly, though, the tour began to wither, the recession increasing its decline. Not until Europe won the Solheim Cup at Dalmahoy in the wet autumn of 1992 was the rot stopped.

The women's tour, headed by Terry Coates, who was appointed in the spring of this year, took advantage of the upsurge in commercial interest that followed this victory and a £2 million, 17-tournament schedule was recently announced for 1994.

Another result of that victory at Dalmahoy was that Johnson, who won 1½ points from her three matches, realised she was a better player than she had dared believe. This year she has proved it, finishing seventeenth in the US money list with winnings of $340,000 (about £226,700), ten times as much as the previous year. For her efforts there and in Europe she was ranked seventh in the world.

If the Europeans united under a banner when playing in the US, then in 1993 this banner was waved as never before. In one spell, Europeans captured four out of six tournaments. In all, five Europeans won events in the US and a sixth was a runner-up. Suzanne Strudwick, who was born in Knutsford, Cheshire, was the rookie of the year and seven graduates of the European tour earned their cards for next year.

Why is this happening? Johnson believes that competition and confidence have a lot to do with it. "We've got confidence in our ability and the opportunity to play," she said. "How you can get the best out of yourself when you're only playing for 11 weeks out of 52 is beyond me.

"Helen Dobson is a good example. I played with her soon after she turned pro and I thought she was quite decent. But what happens? She goes to the US this year and she practises week in and week out and wins a tournament by beating Dottie Mochrie, the best American player, in a play-off.

"That is typical of what has happened to us. I am an example of that, too. If anybody had said to me I would be ranked seventh in the world, I wouldn't have believed that. I'd have been embarrassed before. I'd have thought, well, not really. But now I really believe it. Now I say fair enough, I've won twice, why shouldn't I be?"

There is a price to be paid for this, and it is not only that Johnson misses many of Arsenal's home games. She has become a transatlantic traveller par excellence, journeying from one continent to another at least once each month, at her own expense and always in an economy seat. Her 1993 season included seven events in Europe and 16 in the United States, and the air miles she clocked up were almost as impressive as her earnings.

No respite from this two-continent campaign is in sight until the spoils in Europe match those in the United States. "I need the money," Johnson said. "Eventually my aim is to win the money list in the US, and to do that means learning to stay in the US for 20 to 25 tournaments each year. I always said that if I had a really good start to the year I'd stay there."

But she would not. There is the pull of Arsenal, as well as her admirable intention to help build up her home tour. "The tour for next year looks good now," she said. "But there was a time when if we top players didn't do something about our tour there would not have been a tour to play on."

Lawrence Farmer, the professional at Moor Park, has been teaching Johnson for the past two years. He is pleased at the improvement she has made but, ever the realist, declares she has to improve as much again to fulfill her potential.

"Technically she is very correct and mentally she is very tough," Farmer said. "She needs to hit the ball further and higher. If she can do that I believe she could become the best in the world. She doesn't believe that yet, but she might. And when she does, she probably will have achieved it."

Champions asked to aid revival of proud tradition

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

SEBASTIAN Coe, Steve Ovett and Steve Cram are being recruited for a project aimed at helping to restore the glory days of British middle and long-distance running.

This triumvirate of former champions, in addition to such great names in the sport as Dave Moorcroft and Brendan Foster, will be asked to act as mentors to promising track performers.

The idea is for young athletes to link up with former champions who will act, in Moorcroft's words, "as a shoulder to lean on". They will not interfere with the way athletes are coached but will be on the end of a telephone to give advice and help whenever needed.

"For too long, we have failed to tap this incredible array of experience and talent at our disposal," the scheme's architect, Frank Dick, the British Athletic Federation's national coach, said.

"It will not interfere with the coach/athlete relationship but is intended to provide our new talent with an extra dimension to their education. Our elite athletes of yesteryear have unique insights to offer."

Dick said a number of the projected mentors had already shown their enthusiasm. Cram, Moorcroft, Bruce Tulloh and Ian Stewart are already on a special committee which is preparing a report into ways of successfully developing "endurance" events in Britain.

Moorcroft, a former holder of the world 5,000 metres record, said: "Everyone we've talked to so far has given support. People like Foster, Coe and Ovett are very busy but we're hoping they can be involved as much as possible. Steve Cram is heavily involved, and that is marvellous, because he is still competing. He's a great inspiration to a lot of younger athletes.

"The main expertise we can offer is the experiences — good and bad — we've had in major championships. The problem about experience is that by the time you've got it, it's too late to use it — but we hopefully can use ours in some small way to help others."

Only a decade ago Coe, Ovett and Cram ruled the world of middle-distance running but it is now five years since a British man won a medal at a global championship in any event longer than 800 metres.

However, Dick insisted: "There's still a lot of potential out there with the likes of Curtis Robb, Matthew Yates and Rob Denmark. The quest now is how to turn that potential into medals."

Linford Christie is considering defending his Olympic title in Atlanta in 1996 after winning a clutch of end-of-season awards. Following his success in the world championships in Stuttgart, Christie said that next season was likely to be his last in athletics. Now he is having second thoughts and is threatening to torment his sprint rivals a while longer.

"Keep your pens ready — I'm not counting out the Atlanta Games at all," he said.

Christie, who already holds a place in Olympic history as the oldest winner of the 100 metres, added: "I'd be 36 by the Atlanta Games, but every year I seem to get better and I don't think I'm anywhere near the pinnacle of my career yet. Whatever I do, I'll make sure I go out at the top."

☐ The British trials for next year's world cross-country championship will be held at Alnwick, Northumberland, on February 19.

Morgan's revival puts him in last 32

FROM PHIL YATES
IN ANTWERP

DARREN Morgan, developing into something of a comeback specialist, returned from the brink of a surprise defeat to beat Mark Williams, a fellow Welshman, 5-4 in the last 32 of the European Open here yesterday.

Morgan, who beat Jimmy White 9-7 on his way to the semi-finals of the United Kingdom championship last month after he had trailed 6-2, began to think about the journey home when Williams, 18, compiled a 54 break to open the scoring in the deciding ninth frame.

However, Williams twice missed a red to a middle pocket and Morgan, with what he described as "by far the best clearance I have ever made to win a match", constructed a 64 break under pressure to snatch the frame on the pink.

Morgan, the world No 10, will now meet James Wattana, of Thailand. Wattana earned a place in the last 16 of the event for the first time in five attempts with a 5-1 victory over Mark Bennett in which he included breaks of 66, 59, 61, 62 and 55.

Alan McManus, decidedly off the boil since losing 10-9 to Ken Doherty in the final of the Scottish Masters in September, showed a considerable improvement on his patchy recent form by beating Gary Wilkinson 5-1. McManus faces David Roe, a 5-1 conqueror of Dene O'Kane, in the last 16.

RESULTS: First round: D Morgan (Wales) bt M Williams (Wales) 5-4; J Wattana (Thailand) bt M Bennett (Wales) 5-1; A McManus (Scotland) bt G Wilkinson (England) 5-1; D Roe (England) bt D O'Kane (New Zealand) 5-1.

☐ Paul Reeve, the 22-year-old England No 2 from Redcar, squeezed into the quarter-finals of the world amateur championships in Karachi with a hard-earned win over Guo Hua, of China, the seventh seed. Kieran Erwin, of Northern Ireland, beat Mark Fenton, of Wales, 5-4.

England keen to play twice

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

BEFORE England beat New Zealand last month, Geoff Cooke, the team manager, expressed regret that no home union had more than one opportunity against a leading touring side. Victory at Twickenham may have affected that view, but the broad principle has attracted support from the Rugby Football Union (RFU).

"We only have one ground to support a major international and if we had a big ground in the north, that would be ideal," Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said. The difference with the southern hemisphere, where three internationals on a long tour have become the norm, is that New Zealand and South Africa have different international-match venues to accommodate. Australia, however, filled the Sydney Football Stadium twice in 15 days against the 1989 British Isles.

Wales recently requested the four home unions to consider two internationals in Cardiff when the South Africans visit Wales and Scotland next autumn, although it is hard to imagine the Welsh need more internationals in their already-congested calendar. Yet the four home unions committee could only refer the request to the International Rugby Football Board for consideration since the board is the final arbiter on the number of internationals to be played within a 13-match tour.

For the time being, double-headers remain the prerogative of short tours to the southern hemisphere — as in England's visit to South Africa next May, when internationals are scheduled for June 4 in Cape Town and June 11 in Pretoria, and of France to New Zealand, where they will play the All Blacks in Christchurch on June 26 and Auckland on July 3.

However, England are still at loggerheads with the South African Rugby Football Union over the detail of their eight-match tour: an opening match against Natal, the Currie Cup-holders, scarcely represents a gentle entrance, but the principal objection is the climb to altitude in mid-tour, then the descent to the Cape for the first international followed by a return to altitude for the last two games.

Not that England will travel with any great expectation of an unbeaten tour: "The tour forms part of our journey towards the World Cup in South Africa in 1995," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical director, said. "We would be looking at players and experimenting with how we train, what we eat, the effect of altitude."


Rutherford: tests

England will take a look at likely opponents in March when a South Africa B side will play England's emerging players at Bath on March 15 and England A at Leicester three days later. Indeed, March will be a busy month since, five nations' championship matches aside, a Canada A squad will play three games in England and two in Wales.

Later in the year, England will play full internationals at Twickenham against Romania, on November 12, and Canada, on December 10, by which time the lower tier of the refurbished West Stand will be in place. Such diversity of opposition will ensure a thorough examination of the leading 50 players in England, physical and mental: how many will still be standing by June 24 1995, the date of the World Cup final, is a matter for speculation.

Wizards short of magic touch

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

LEEKES Wizards, the Cardiff-based pre-season favourites for the SRA National Squash League title, may have sacrificed their ambitions of a third championship when a depleted side lost to ICL-PMD Herts in Welwyn Garden City.

With Hansi Wiens, the German champion, carelessly leading the Leekes line at Herts Country Club and even Robert Edwards, the team manager, preferring to accompany Peter Marshall, Chris Walker and Mark Maclean to a lucrative televised open-air invitation event in Bombay, the Wizards were beaten 3-1, a result which left them one place off the bottom of the table.

Only Adrian Davies, the Wales No 1, who was handily placed at third string while recovering from hernia surgery, managed a point for the visiting side, and he needed his best performance of the season against Juha Raumolin, the 20-year-old world junior champion, from Finland, winning 10-8, 10-8, 9-2.

Wiens, ranked No 12 in the world, lost 7-9, 10-9, 9-2, 9-1 in 61 minutes to Mark Chaloner, 21, ranked only twentieth in England, after sacrificing game point at 9-8 in the second game with a brace of tinned service returns. He appeared to lose interest from that point.

That first-string result clinched the home victory, but the opportunity was established earlier when Julian Wellings, 21, ranked No 26 in England, defeated an uninterested Del Harris, once the hope of the British game, 6-9, 9-7, 9-2, 9-4 in 75 minutes. Chris Clare beat Gareth Davies 4-9, 9-6, 9-2, 9-2 in the fourth-string match. With their victory, Herts moved to third place in the table.

Results page 34

Gowers pursues Grand Prix title

BY RICHARD EATON

GILLIAN Gowers, the winner of the World Cup mixed doubles badminton championship in Delhi in August with Peter Axelsson, of Sweden, hopes to add the World Grand Prix title with her new partner, Michael Sogaard, of Denmark, in Kuala Lumpur this week.

The pair are likely to face a challenge in their group from Gill Clark and Nick Ponting, who won England's only medal, a bronze, in the world championships in Birmingham in June, but the Anglo-Danish combination is seeded to go through for a final with the world champions, Thomas Lund, from Denmark, and Catrine Bengtsson, from Sweden.

Five English players all together have qualified for Kula Lumpur. The others are Peter Knowles and Joanne Wright, who are both making their first appearances. Knowles plays in the men's singles in a group headed by the All England champion, Heryanto Arbi, while Wright will partner Clark in the women's doubles — an event in which Clark and Gowers were runners-up in the tournament last year.

The defending singles champions are Rashid Sidek, the Commonwealth champion from Malaysia, who has an undefeated record in the Stadium Negara for the past three years, and Susi Susanti, of Indonesia, who is both the world and Olympic champion.

Dizzying combination of sport and art

AMONG the great oxymorons of our time are military intelligence, Jockey Club and sporting literature. Good sports books are rare things, and to be treasured.

Publishers, in these recession-ravaged, video-thronged days, have been reluctant to look beyond safe-as-houses ghosted books and big names. It is rare for such books to rise above the humdrum: too often, to buy such a one is to invest in disappointment.

But this year, I can recommend three sports books: dizzying stuff. All made it to the shortlist of the William Hill sports book prize, which is run in collaboration with the many-splendoured Sportspages bookshop of London and Manchester.

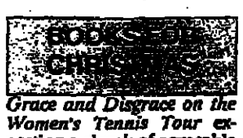
Top of my list is *Betrayal: The Struggle for Cricket's Soul* by Graeme Wright, former editor of *Wisden*. I gushed at length over this book when it first came out: the book deals with the sport's too-eager embracing of the values of a period in which money was — is — considered an ultimate good.

I will quote one line only: "In 1992, Sussex, advertising for a director of marketing, didn't even think it essential for the applicant to have an interest in cricket, acknowledging only that it would be helpful." Ha.

I also enjoyed the eventual winner, *Endless Winter* by Stephen Jones. This might have been subtitled *The Struggle for Rugby's Soul*. Wright writes as angst-ridden intellectual: Jones assumes the persona of a great big amiable puzzled bear, which beast he resembles more than a little physically.

But his huge and ursine devotion to the game has not affected his brain or his eyesight. He sees rugby with two good eyes: amateurism, law-changing, violent play. He sees the world of rugby as it is, not as he would like it to be: errors are recorded in honest sadness, great play with unfeigned delight.

I read *Ladies of the Court: Grace and Disgrace on the Women's Tennis Tour* expecting a chunk of agreeable but superficial muck-raking. But Michael Mewshaw has gone better than that: he has found some dreadful things and tried to ask why.



A minimum age for professional players is his impossible prescription: "Older players would be less vulnerable to sexual abuse, financial exploitation, and parental manipulation and battering." The United States Tennis Association was appalled by what he revealed. Guess what they did about it? Tried to sack his informant, of course.

These books have something in common. Each has a strong individual voice. Each is powerfully subjective and emotionally in touch with its subject. Each is written by a writer with something he badly wants to write about. Each writer is writing as himself, not pretending to be somebody else.

We can get great innings, great tries, great passing shots on video. A book, written by its own author, gives something else. Just as photography freed painting from the need to record, so the sporting video could free book publishing from the need for star vehicles.

I am not ploughing a personal furrow here: I have no sports book in the pipeline. But my life is full of sport and books: a pity the two coincide so seldom. These three books are all right. Don't laugh: sporting literature.

Betrayal: The Struggle for Cricket's Soul by Graeme Wright, published by Witherby, price £16.99.

Endless Winter: The Inside Story of the Rugby Revolution by Stephen Jones, published by Mainstream Publishing, price £14.99.

Ladies of the Court: Grace and Disgrace on the Women's Tour by Michael Mewshaw, published by Little, Brown and Company, price £15.99.

SIMON BARNES

هكذا من الأصل

Pipe primed for Chepstow repeat

By Julian Muscat

THE all-powerful stable of Martin Pipe offered the clearest evidence yet that it has shaken off the debilitating effects of a respiratory virus with a brace of winners at Folkestone yesterday.

Victories from Pondering and Catch The Cross took Pipe's tally to five winners in the last three racing days, which has more than doubled his total for the previous two weeks. His only other runner, Southerly Gale, also ran with credit when chasing home Nefarious.

The extent of the virus on Pipe's normally free-scoring yard has been such that the Somerset-based handler sent out just three winners from 25 runners in December prior to Fragrant Dawn's victory at Cheltenham last Saturday.

But yesterday's dual strike, coupled with a double at Newton Abbot on Monday, will offer Pipe encouragement that his horses have now turned the corner even though his wife, Carol, said last night: "The tests indicate that we are not quite out of the woods yet. But the worst does seem to be behind us."

Should that prove the case, Pipe can be expected to make rapid advances towards the head of the trainers' lists, in which he currently languishes in seventh place.

The stable's recent productive spell prompted backing yesterday for Pipe's Riverside Boy in the Coral Welsh National on December 28, a race the champion trainer has won in four of the last five years. Second last year, Riverside Boy was cut to 6-1 from two points longer by the race sponsors and is headed in the market only by his stable companion, Rolling Ball, who is a 5-1 shot. Rolling Ball, winner of the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham in 1991, failed to progress beyond the third fence when fancied for the Hennessy on his only start this term.

Riverside Boy, meanwhile, ran with promise when second to Party Politics in the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow last month, a race more familiar for Jodami's disappointing effort in third place. The result of Jodami's post-race test is expected to be revealed today.

Pipe, who saddled the first four home in last year's Welsh National, could conceivably repeat the dose. In addition to Rolling Ball and Riverside Boy, he has four others engaged in the stamina test over 3¾ miles. They are the highly-weighted Chatam, Miinnehoma, Cushinstown and King's Curate, the latter a talented hurdler formerly trained by Stan Mellor.

In the more immediate future, Pipe's only entry for Saturday's Betterware Cup at Ascot, Capability Brown, was backed from 13-2 to 11-2 with William Hill yesterday. Young Hustler, runner-up to Pipe's Fragrant Dawn in last week's Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenham, strengthened his position at the head of the market when cut to 2-1 from 5-2.

ED BYRNE



Rolling Ball, an early faller on his reappearance, is favourite to make amends in the Coral Welsh National

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SHEER ABILITY
(2.40 Exeter)

Next best: Edimbourg
(3.10 Exeter)

Tote maintains momentum with new bets

By Julian Muscat

THE Tote is to introduce two new bets, the Multibet and the Quadpot, in its continuing efforts to attract a greater share of patronage from the nation's punters.

The Multibet, which is expected to be in place by the Cheltenham festival in March, will allow punters to combine two or more selections in accumulative bets. It will also enable clients of the Tote to indulge in Patents, Yankees and Lucky 15s, all popular combination bets for many years with fixed odds backers.

Combination bets will be fed into existing Tote pools, but the Quadpot will create a new pool. Essentially a consolation bet for Placepot punters, the Quadpot will operate on the last four races designated to the Placepot. It will run along parallel lines to the Placepot and should be ready for Royal Ascot next year.

The Quadpot has been established to cater for those who make an early exit from the Placepot, a bet which requires punters to select a placed horse in the first six races at a meeting.

The Placepot is one of the pool betting firm's most popular bets, but those who attempt it are often frustrated after the first or second race. Hence the appeal of the Quadpot, which will also be available to late arrivals at the races.

Of the Multibet, Geoffrey Webster, public relations officer for the Tote, said: "Initially combination bets will be restricted to selections from one race meeting only, although we are developing the facility to incorporate cross-course betting at a later date."

The development of Tote Direct terminals has increased betting options available to the Tote. These terminals, which transfer all bets at Tote odds into the relevant racecourse pools, have been installed in all off-course betting shops owned by the Tote in addition to some shops owned by fixed-odds bookmakers. There are over 1,000 terminals in place already, with Corals being the Tote's biggest customer.

It is through the Tote Direct facility that the pool betting chain is pursuing the concept of a Superbet, which will require punters to select the first six home, in the correct order, of a televised handicap each Saturday.

Tote officials last week suggested that in excess of 3,000 Tote Direct outlets would be required for the Superbet to become viable.

Challengers tumble as Tomba clinches triumph

ALBERTO Tomba, of Italy, won his fourth World Cup slalom in Sestriere yesterday after his closest rivals were thrown off course by an unexpected challenge from Ole Christian Furuseth, of Norway.

Tomba, the former Olympic champion, who was fastest after the first run, delighted supporters in his home country by following up with the second-fastest time on his next excursion to clock an aggregate win in 1min 58.38sec.

Thomas Stangassinger, of Austria, claimed second place in a time of 1min 59.13sec and Furuseth, whose second leg of 60.05sec had triggered a series of errors by higher-ranked competitors, finished third.

The Norwegian, twelfth after the first run, took third spot in 1min 59.56sec after his second time scattered the field.

Thomas Fogdoe, of Sweden, who captured the World Cup slalom title from Tomba last season with four wins, lasted only four gates on the second run before crashing, and the challenge of Thomas Sykora, of Austria, came to an end when he straddled a gate on the second run.

Marc Girardelli's disappointing start to the season continued when he fell on the second run. The Austrian-born skier, from Luxembourg, still looking to add to his 42 World Cup race victories, lost control and crashed as he sought to make up ground after the first leg. Finn Christian Jagge, of Norway, the Olympic champion, was fourth after his second run moved him up three places.

Tomba, who had finished a disappointing seventeenth in the giant slalom at Val d'Isère, France, on Monday had been determined to reward the 3,000 supporters who made the trek for the midweek race.

Tomba, whose triumphant career began with a slalom win in Sestriere in 1987, had won three of the last five slaloms on the same slopes. He looked to be heading for victory last year when he fell on the second run.

He next races in a giant slalom at Alta Badia, Italy, on Sunday when he will be looking to stretch his run of success on his 27th birthday.

LEADING RESULTS: 1, A Tomba (It) 1min 58.38sec; 2, T Stangassinger (Austria) 1.59.13; 3, O-C Furuseth (Nor) 1.59.56; 4, F-C Jagge (Nor) 1.59.69; 5, B Gstrein (Austria) 2:00.08; 6, P Roth (Ger) 2:00.22; 7, K A Aamodt (Nor) 2:00.23; 8, J Kosir (Slovenia) 2:00.62; 9, M von Gruenigen (Switz) 2:00.67; 10, G Mader (Austria) 2:00.79. OVERALL WORLD CUP STANDINGS: 1, Aamodt 357pts; 2, Mader 342; 3, Tomba 294; 4, Stangassinger 260; 5, F Piccard (Fr) 229; 6, Gstrein 205; 7, Kosir 177; 8, Von Gruenigen 174; 9, Jagge 160; 10, T Bernerssol (Ger) 145.

St Anton to stage extra race

THE town council in St Anton yesterday stepped in with financial help to enable a *women's World Cup downhill* race to go ahead in the Austrian resort on Friday.

The race, moved from Veysonnaz in Switzerland because of warm weather at the weekend, was then called off when the organisers said they were unable to find a sponsor.

But yesterday they said the town council in St Anton, already scheduled to host two other women's races on Saturday and Sunday, had now agreed to finance the extra event.

Elena Batalova, of Russia, mastered difficult conditions to win the women's ballet title in the World Cup freestyle skiing event in Piancavallo, Italy. Just before competition started, the artifical snow became hard and icy when the course was salted.

Fabrice Becker, of France, the Olympic champion, took the men's title, with Martin Fielden, the British newcomer, finishing 21st.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

12.20 Bet A Plan
12.50 Caspian Beluga
1.20 Reed My Lips
1.50 Present Situation
2.20 FIRST OPTION (nap)
2.50 Express Service
3.20 Captain Marmalade

Private Handicapper's top rating: 12.20 THREEPENNY-BRIDGE.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

12.20 BAKER LORENZ CLAIMING STAKES
(Div I: 2-Y-O: £2,925: 7f) (10 runners)

101 (3) 451361 THREEPENNY-BRIDGE 18 (B,C,F,S) (E Goody) W G M Turner 8-9 T Sprake 99
102 (8) 4333 TSWANA 90 (A Campion) M Campion 8-6 P McCabe (5) 84
103 (7) 000300 KILLING TIME 37 (MHS Systems Ltd) R Hannon 8-5 D Gibbs (7) 85
104 (1) 0 COVEN STAR 46 (Mrs R Hawes) D Morris 8-2 D Wright (5) –
105 (6) 000 SOUND MAN JIMACK 13 (V) (J Bridger) J Bridger 8-2 G Bardwell –
106 (10) 302042 BET A PLAN 32 (B,BF,F) (P Leonard) W Muir 8-1 T Williams 81
107 (4) 000046 CLASSICAL 16 (B) (D Allen) B Meehan 8-1 C Rutter 83
108 (9) 0 SARASOMIA 201 (A Davies) R Baker 8-0 A Mackay –
109 (5) 502343 JUST GREENWICH 7 (BF) (Mrs E Dawson) P Evans 7-13 G Sanders (5) 84
110 (2) MORE PROMISES (D Butler) P Butler 7-11 N Adams –

BETTING: 9-4 Threepenny-Bridge, 3-1 Just Greenwich, 6-1 Bet A Plan, 7-1 Killing Time, Tswana, 12-1 Sound Man Jimack, 14-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

THREEPENNY-BRIDGE beat Bold Alex 4l in 9-runner nursery here (AW, 6f). Earlier 3½l 3rd of 11 to Four Of Spades in claimer here (AW, 6f) with CLASSICAL (2lb better off) a short-head 4th. TSWANA best effort when short-head and neck 3rd of 7 to Dulford Lad in claimer at Warwick (7f, good to firm) in July.

BET A PLAN 3½l 2nd of 15 to Little Ibnr in seller here (AW, 7f).
JUST GREENWICH 1¼l 3rd of 12 to Riskie Things in a nursery here (AW, 6f). MORE PROMISES (foaled Mar 13, cost 670gns). Brother by King Among Kings to 6f/7f winner Palacegate King.
Selection: JUST GREENWICH

12.50 CHRISTINA APPRENTICE HANDICAP
(£2,467: 1m 5f) (7 runners)

201 (4) 130362 VISHNU 23 (F) (N White) J Eyre 3-10-0 L Aspell (5) 91
202 (2) 254606 ECU DE FRANCE 13J (V) (D Knight) M Madgwick 3-9-9 J O'Dwyer 97
203 (7) 010018 CASPIAN BELUGA 15 (C,G,S) (L Hawkings) Mrs A Knight 5-9-3 L Carter 98
204 (6) 520130 CLIBURNEL NEWS 23 (BF,F,G) (P Leonard) W Muir 3-8-8 S McCarthy (3) 98
205 (1) 150023 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 7 (B,C,G) W Musson 3-8-0 A Whelan (5) 98
206 (3) /0/0053 YOUNG FACT 32 (C,F) (Duckhaven Stud) R Baker 8-7-8 C Adamson (5) 97
207 (5) 484052 HEAD TURNER 7 (D,G,S) (I Jerard) C Wildman 5-7-7 M Baird (3) 99

BETTING: 11-4 Head Turner, 3-1 Broughtons Formula, 6-1 Vishnu, 7-1 Caspian Beluga, Young Fact, 8-1 Cliburnel News, 10-1 Ecu De France.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

VISHNU 6l 2nd of 15 to Chatham Island in a handicap at Southwell (AW, 1m 4f) with CLIBURNEL NEWS (2lb better off) 33l 12th. CASPIAN BELUGA beat Telephus 3½l in a handicap here (AW, 1m 5f) with YOUNG FACT (6lb better off) 1½l 3rd and HEAD TURNER (8lb better off) 17l 13th. HEAD TURNER ½l 2nd of 14 to Arctic Guest in a handicap over course and distance with BROUGHTON'S FORMULA (same terms) 1¾l 3rd.
Selection: HEAD TURNER

1.20 BAKER LORENZ CLAIMING STAKES
(Div II: 2-Y-O: £2,925: 7f) (10 runners)

301 (4) 001002 PRIVATE FIXTURE 14 (G) (H Steckmest) W Jarvis 9-0 M Tebbutt 97
302 (2) STORM BIDDER (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 8-7 B Russell (5) –
303 (9) 00 DANCING CLOWN 131 (Mrs M Cooke) N Callaghan 8-6 A Mackay –
304 (10) 0 DONT CON TH'BOOKIE 7 (B Fulton) W Musson 8-4 D McCabe (5) –
305 (6) 665060 MIDSEAS 85 (T Ford) Miss J Doyle 8-4 J Quinn 86
306 (7) 450505 REED MY LIPS 57 (Fairly Stable) P Walwyn 8-4 D Biggs 99
307 (8) 066050 ROYAL INTERPRETER 41 (V) (Mrs H Mills) P McEntee 8-4 S Whitworth 88
308 (5) 660005 COLONEL SINCLAIR 7 (Sinclair Developments Ltd) R Hollinshead 8-3 A Garth (5) 72
309 (1) 026005 SALLY'S TRUST 18 (B) (B Meehan) B Meehan 7-12 Dale Gibson 87
310 (3) 000000 SHEILOBLIGE 158 (K Higson) G L Moore 7-10 D Wright (5) –

BETTING: 3-1 Private Fixture, 4-1 Reed My Lips, 7-1 Midseas, 8-1 Sally's Trust, Sheilobllge, 10-1 Colonel Sinclair, Dont Con Th'bookie, Royal Interpreter, 12-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

PRIVATE FIXTURE ½l 2nd of 6 to Astrac in a conditions race at Southwell (AW, 7f). STORM BIDDER (foaled Feb 5th). By Gabitat, sixth foal of 5f handicapper Queen's Bidder. REED MY LIPS 6½l 5th of 14 to Dangerous Shadow in a nursery handicap at Chepstow (6f, soft).

COLONEL SINCLAIR 12½l 5th of 8 to Pink Brief in a maiden over course and distance with DONT CON TH'BOOKIE (1lb worse off) 4¾l last. SALLY'S TRUST 3½l 5th of 9 to Pearly River in a maiden over course and distance.
Selection: REED MY LIPS (nap)

1.50 BAKER LORENZ MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,407: 6f) (12 runners)

401 (5) 600050 ALPINE JOHNNY 29 (V) (J Bigg) R Hollinshead 9-0 S Perks 98
402 (11) AS SUCH (N Callaghan) N Callaghan 9-0 B Rouse –
403 (10) 0633 DOCTOR JAMES 7 (A Gorrie) J Fitch-Heyes 9-0 J Fanning 90
404 (9) 060 GARDNER DOUGLAS 23 (Mrs N Macauley) Mrs N Macauley 9-0 A Clark –
405 (1) PRESENT SITUATION (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 9-0 Kim McDonnell 98
406 (6) 46000 ROCKETEER 71 (Mrs J Muir) W Muir 9-0 J Quinn 99
407 (8) 00044 SALTCORN 18 (Thanet Leasing Limited) C C Elsey 9-0 C Nutter –
408 (4) LA SPAGNA (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) M Prescott 8-9 NON-RUNNER –
409 (12) 00056 MAZ 7 (A Bailey) A Bailey 8-9 Dale Gibson –
410 (2) OFF THE AIR (Lord Huntingdon) Lord Huntingdon 8-9 S O'Gorman –
411 (7) ORDIMA (Pacific Rim) P Mitchell 8-9 D Biggs –
412 (3) 00 THE DEACONESS 86 (Exors of the late Mr J Martin) Mrs A King 8-9 D Biggs –

BETTING: 11-4 Off The Air, 4-1 Alpine Johnny, 5-1 La Spagna, Present Situation, 13-2 Doctor James, 15-2 Rocketeer, 8-1 Saltcorn, 10-1 As Such, 12-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ALPINE JOHNNY 6l 7th of 10 to Global Dancer in a maiden at Southwell (AW, 6f). DOCTOR JAMES 4l 3rd of 8 to Pink Brief in a maiden here (AW, 7f). GARDNER DOUGLAS 16l 6th of 10 to Monkey's Wedding in a claimer at Southwell (AW, 5f). PRESENT SITUATION (foaled Apr24). Second foal of a smart 5f winner. SALTCORN best effort when 1¾l 4th of 14 to Phoneaholic in a maiden over course and distance on penultimate start.
LA SPAGNA (foaled Mar6). Half-sister to prolific winner Misty Halo.
Selection: SALTCORN

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.20 GLAUCIA HANDICAP (£3,173: 5f) (7 runners)

501 (6) 000130 EDUCATED PET 32 (BF,C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Williams) P Evans 4-9-12 S Sanders (5) 99
502 (3) 312651 PATSY GRIMES 7 (B,CD,G,S) M Muggeridge 3-9-8 (7ex) Mark Denaro (7) 97
503 (1) 310604 FIRST OPTION 32 (D,F,G,S) (P Savill) M H Easterby 3-9-6 L Charnock 98
504 (2) 000040 PALEY PRINCE 7 (D,V,F,G) (M Usher) M Usher 7-9-2 C Adamson (7) 95
505 (4) 04652-0 SKULLCAP 233 (F) (Mrs J Naughton) T Naughton 3-8-9 A Garth (5) 89
506 (5) 340-000 RAYS MEAD 22 (D,F) (Miss D Green) L Holt 5-7-8 N Adams 88
507 (7) 40-0600 BELLA BAMBOLA 32 (B) (S Pedersen) K Cunningham-Brown 3-7-7 D Wright (5) 85

Long handicap: Bella Bambola 6-11.

BETTING: 2-1 Patsy Grimes, 3-1 Educated Pet, 4-1 First Option, 8-1 Paley Prince, 16-1 Bella Bambola, Rays Mead, Skullcap.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

EDUCATED PET ½l 3rd of 10 to Serious Hurry in a handicap here (AW, 7f) with FIRST OPTION (1lb better off) ½l 4th. Previously beat Donicksly Head in a 21-runner handicap at Doncaster (6f, good). PATSY GRIMES beat Apollo Red ½l in a 9-runner handicap over here (AW, 5f) with PALEY PRINCE (5lb better off) 4l 7th. FIRST OPTION 6l 7th of 22 to Lord High Admiral in a handicap at Doncaster (5f, good) on penultimate start. SKULLCAP best effort when 3½l 2nd of 14 to Pat Poindestres in a seller here (AW, 6f) on penultimate start.
Selection: EDUCATED PET

2.50 BAKER LORENZ HANDICAP (£2,803: 7f) (16 runners)

601 (13) 000165 SERIOUS HURRY 7 (C,F,S) (R Bensoam) C C Elsey 5-10-0 B Rouse 94
602 (12) 020620 HALBERT 127 (G Greenwood) T Casey 4-9-11 M Tebbutt 99
603 (1) 350400 SPLASH OF SALT 44 (C,G) (S Brown) T Naughton 3-9-11 A Garth (5) 95
604 (16) 050-40 RAD 32 (S Woods) S Woods 3-9-11 A Clark 86
605 (3) 203050 POP TO STANS 110 (D,F,G) (J Furlong) J Pearce 4-9-9 G Eblet (7) 95
606 (10) 060502 OBSIDIAN GREY 22 (F,G,S) (D) (Miss L Siddall) Miss L Siddall 6-9-9 D McCabe (5) 99
607 (6) 063224 EXPRESS SERVICE 13 (B,CD,G) W O'Gorman 4-9-9 Emma O'Gorman (3) 97
608 (2) 500030 YUNUS EMRE 7 (D,G) (Elite Racing Club) J Arnold 3-9-7 A Daly (7) 85
609 (7) 20-3306 HOY-LIEGH-RAG 22 (P Dodd) J Berry 3-9-6 P Roberts (7) 95
610 (11) 330056 CALISAR 7 (D,G,S) (A Poole) W G M Turner 3-9-6 T Sprake 94
611 (5) 80-4100 PREDICTABLE 16 (CD,G) (L Hawkings) Mrs A Knight 7-8-6 Marie Plowright (7) 99
612 (8) 100000 SCOTS LAW 35 (B,BF,CD,F,G) (Mrs R Doorgachurn) R O'Sullivan 6-9-6 D Biggs 90
613 (15) 0/46000- ERETRIA 468 (Mrs M Keogh) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-4 Dale Gibson –
614 (14) 043001 SCOTTISH PARK 29 (D,F,G) (D Emery) J Harris 4-9-4 T Williams 97
615 (4) 010060 DESERT SPLENDOUR 72 (D,G,S) (R Whatford) R Hannon 5-9-3 P McCabe (5) 94
616 (9) 034405 LADY SABO 29 (V,BF,F) (J Purcell) R Spicer 4-9-3 A Mackay 98

BETTING: 6-1 Scottish Park, 7-1 Obsidian Grey, Predictable, 8-1 Express Service, 10-1 Halbert, Scots Law, Serious Hurry, 12-1 Rad, 16-1 Calisar, Hoy-Liegh-Rag, Yunus Emre, 20-1 Splash Of Salt, 25-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

SERIOUS HURRY best recent effort when beating Cornel Whirlpool neck in a 10-runner handicap here (AW, 5f). SPLASH OF SALT best recent effort when 5l 4th of 12 to Trentesimo in a seller at Southwell (6f, soft). OBSIDIAN GREY 1½l 2nd of 16 to Sense of Priority in a claimer at Southwell (AW, 6f). EXPRESS SERVICE about 4¾l 4th of 13 to Agwa in a handicap here (AW, 6f). CALISAR about 4½l 5th of 16 to Letsbeonest about in a conditions race over course and distance on penultimate start with PREDICTABLE (2lb better off) 17¾l 12th. SCOTTISH PARK beat Royal Acclaim 1½l in a 16-runner claimer at Southwell (AW, 1m).
LADY SABO 6¾l 5th of 16 to Ashgore in a handicap at Southwell (AW, 7f), with OBSIDIAN GREY (1lb worse off) 2½l 7th.
Selection: OBSIDIAN GREY

3.20 MARIA AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(£2,469: 1m 2f) (14 runners)

1 (7) 000001 PERFAY 18 (CD,G,S) (J Joseph) D Wilson 5-11-7 Miss E Bronson 93
2 (11) 100000 SYLVAN SABRE 13J (V,CD,F,G,S) P Mitchell 4-11-2 R Teal (3) 86
3 (14) 010300 CHIEF OF STAFF 41 (F,G) (Exclusive Partnership) J Pearce 4-10-11 Miss L Pearce 92
4 (13) 202420 MY HARVINSKI 15J (Gabriels Farm Partnership) P Hedger 3-10-10 Miss A Harwood 85
5 (2) 623022 AWESOME POWER 7 (CD,G) (G Frayne) J Hills 7-10-9 Miss E J Houghton (3) 99
6 (4) 653000 JAHANGIR 18 (F,G,S) (Major P Smith) Pat Mitchell 4-10-9 Miss F Burke (5) 90
7 (10) 646003 FLASHFEET 44 (P Purdy) B Forsey 3-10-7 Miss A Purdy (5) 93
8 (8) 0-220 MISLEMANI 13 (C Green) Lady Herries 3-10-7 Mrs M Cowdrey 93
9 (3) 502515 MOGWAI 62 (E,B) (R Hawthorn) S Dow 4-10-6 Mrs D Arbuthnot (3) 88
10 (9) 440200 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 13 (G) D Thom 4-10-3 Miss Diana Jones 91
11 (5) 152256 PUSEY STREET BOY 13 (F,G,S) (M Wilkins) J Bosley 6-9-10 Mrs S Bosley (5) 96
12 (6) 000000- SUPER HEIGHTS 27J (C,F,G) (D Williams) D Williams 5-9-8 Mrs D McHale (5) –
13 (1) 114220 DANCING SENSATION 13 (C,F,S) R Akehurst 6-9-8 Miss P Jones 98
14 (12) 060430 MEXICAN DANCER 7 (G,S) (Hammond Partners) P Howling 4-9-7 Miss L Hide (5) 90

BETTING: 4-1 Pusey Street Boy, 6-1 Awesome Power, Perfay, 8-1 Jahangir, Mogwai, 10-1 Flashfeet, Mislemani, 14-1 Chief Of Staff, Sylvan Sabre, 16-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

PERFAY beat AWESOME POWER (12lb better off) 8l in a 14-runner seller over course and distance. MY HARVINSKI ¾l 2nd of 14 to Wild Strawberry in a handicap at Windsor (1m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start with PUSEY STREET BOY (1lb worse off) 1l 3rd. AWESOME POWER 2¼l 2nd of 14 to Lookingforarainbow in a conditions race over course and distance. FLASHFEET 9¾l 3rd of 9 to Midnight Jazz in a maiden at Southwell (AW, 1m). MOGWAI beat All The Girls neck in an 18-runner selling handicap at Bath (1m, good) on penultimate start. CAPTAIN MARMALADE best recent effort when ½l 2nd of 14 to Night Edition in handicap over course and distance with CHIEF OF STAFF (5lb better off) 20¾l 11th.
Selection: AWESOME POWER

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
J Harris	7	31	22.6	Emma O'Gorman	34	153	22.2
M Prescott	27	123	22.0	S O'Gorman	27	185	14.6
W O'Gorman	35	165	21.2	L Carter	4	33	12.1
R Hollinshead	12	57	21.1	B Russell	8	68	11.8
J Berry	22	105	21.0	C Nutter	4	35	11.4
W Jarvis	9	44	20.5	J Williams	57	509	11.2

☐ There are 11 entries for the grade one £50,000 Bonusprint Christmas Hurdle at Kempton Park on Tuesday, December 28. They are: Bold Boss, Granville Again, Halkopous, High Baron, King Credo, Linpac West, Muse, Oh So Risky, Precious Boy, Staunch Friend and Absalom's Lady.

EXETER

THUNDERER

12.40 Cheryls Pet. 1.10 Valianthe. 1.40 Crystal Bear. 2.10 Mobile Messenger. 2.40 Red Amber. 3.10 Edimbourg.

GOING: SOFT SIS

12.40 HERALD EXPRESS MARES ONLY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,219: 2m 2f) (13 runners)

1 12 TIME FOR A FLUTTER 16 (G) C James 4-12-0 Mr E James (7) 99
2 00-4 COLETTE'S CHOICE 26 G Ham 4-11-4 S Mackey 80
3 5531 GLENFINN PRINCESS 12 (S) K Bridgwater 5-11-4 D Bridgwater 86
4 2112 HANDY LASS 12 (BF,CD,F,G) Mrs A Knight 4-11-2 D Matthews (5) 98
5 4060 PROVERBS GIRL 42 G Balding 8-11-0 E Leonard 91
6 234- CHERYLS PET 303 R Buckler 5-10-2 B Powell 89
7 0-00 SPIRIT LEVEL 12 J Payne 5-10-0 Mr R Payne (7) 80
8 -40U REALLY NEAT 12 L Waring 7-10-0 S Keightley 80
9 30-3 CADOLIVE 15 G Ham 5-10-0 I Lawrence 93
10 4450 ELEGANT TOUCH 50 (B) M Pipe 4-10-0 Mr M Burrows (7) 85
11 0P0- LIRELLA 302 P Rodford 6-10-0 T Thompson (7) –
12 3553 UP ALL NIGHT 12 R Curtis 4-10-0 G Crone (7) 88
13 000 BLUE LYZANDER 12 R Brotherton 4-10-0 T Jenks (5) 74

3-1 Handy Lass, 7-2 Glenfinn Princess, 9-2 Time For A Flutter, 5-1 Cadolive, 7-1 Colette's Choice, 8-1 Proverbs Girl, 10-1 Cheryls Pet, 12-1 Up All Night, 14-1 others.

1.10 DEVONAIR RADIO NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE
(£2,013: 2m 2f) (18)

1 00/ BIDDLESTONE BOY 590 D Barons 6-11-9 R Davis (3) –
2 400 VALIANTHE 6 (B) M Pipe 5-11-5 R Dunwoody 92
3 POLDEN PRIDE G Balding 5-11-4 Richard Guest –
4 0/60 FORGED PUNT 12 K Bishop 6-11-1 S Hodgson –
5 /P0- KINGS BROMPTON 266 J Payne 7-11-1 Mr R Payne (7) –
6 -PB4 THE JET SET 12 (B) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-1 I Lawrence –
7 65 COUNTRY STYLE 15 R Alner 4-11-0 S Earle 77
8 0/P0 GENERALLY JUST 60 G Stickland 8-10-13 Mr S Stickland –
9 POP- PIRATE OF PENZANCE 366 S Horn 5-10-13 Mrs C Wonnacott –
10 006/ ROYAL SEGOS 748 Mrs P Dutfield 8-10-13 N Dawe –
11 3F51 BILL QUILL 19 (G,S) R Frost 9-10-11 R Darke (7) 84
12 P-02 DERRYMOSS 12 (V) M Pipe 7-10-11 T Dascombe (7) 74
13 3431 CHICKABIDDY 12 (CD,G) G Edwards 5-10-10 M A Fitzgerald 99
14 P ANA BLAKE 50 Mrs A Knight 5-10-8 D Matthews (5) –
15 P-P RAIN SHADOW 28 (B) B Millman 4-10-7 D Salter (5) –
16 4663 SOUL TRADER 11 Mrs A Knight 4-10-6 S Burrough 94
17 D LIZZIE DRIPPIN 26 M Usher 4-10-3 H Davies –
18 0/6- DYNAVON 263 R Baker 7-10-2 L Harvey –

5-2 Valianthe, 11-4 Bill Quill, 4-1 Chickabiddy, 5-1 Soul Trader, 11-2 Derrymoss, 10-1 Country Style, 12-1 others.

1.40 BBC RADIO DEVON NOVICES CLAIMING CHASE
(£3,227: 2m 2f) (11)

1 -632 CRYSTAL BEAR 12 (B,F,S) T Forster 8-11-12 B Powell 83
2 -8PP MICKEEN 6 (F,G) Miss H Knight 6-11-4 M A Fitzgerald –
3 3-06 PRINCE VALMY 12 N Ayliffe 8-11-4 M Foster –
4 4-65 MANOR MAN 12 W G M Turner 6-11-2 R Dunwoody –
5 CREDIT NOTE R Alner 7-11-0 S Earle –
6 5/5U TURKISH STAR 12 G Ham 8-10-13 S McNeill 71
7 3334 IVYCHURCH 18 R Frost 7-10-12 J Frost 85
8 4FF0 IMPERIAL FLIGHT 32 (F,G) J King 8-10-10 R Greene 88
9 0044 MAGGOTS GREEN 12 J Bradley 6-10-9 R Farrant (3) 87
10 4U54 VIAGGIO 15 (S) J Akehurst 5-10-8 L Harvey 96
11 -436 CHAPEL HILL 14 A Turnell 5-10-7 D Fortt (7) 99

3-1 Crystal Bear, 7-2 Chapel Hill, 5-1 Viaggio, 7-1 Imperial Flight, 8-1 Ivychurch, 10-1 Maggots Green, Mickeen, 14-1 Manor Man, 16-1 others.

2.10 WESTERN MORNING NEWS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,910: 2m 2f) (17)

1 /30- ONE TO NOTE 431 (S) M Muggeridge 9-12-0 R Dunwoody 87
2 -045 BOOGIE BOPPER 2 (B,S) M Pipe 4-11-11 D Burrows (7) 80
3 -510 MOBILE MESSENGER 54 (C,S) D Barons 5-11-5 J Frost 83
4 30-4 EARLY BREEZE 6 (D,F,G) P Evans 7-11-3 B Clifford 91
5 -406 HATS HIGH 34 (B,G,S) F Gray 8-11-3 M Crosse 97
6 -030 IT'S NOT MY FAULT 8 (S) D Wintle 5-11-1 P McDermott 89
7 2/PP WAVERLEY BOY 16 (G) K Cunningham-Brown 11-11-0 Richard Guest –
8 0-32 SEE NOW 29 (F,S) Mrs A Knight 8-10-13 S Burrough 99
9 0-4P LAABAS 28 (G) J Long 10-10-11 R Rowell 92
10 5000 BRORA ROSE 9 (B,CD,S) P Rodford 5-10-11 I Shoemark 98
11 3340 SANDRO 12 (B,C,D,F,G) R Baker 4-10-11 L Harvey 98
12 P02- CORLY SPECIAL 247 (F) K Burke 6-10-9 N Williamson 92
13 1U5- COSMIC FORCE 389 (G) C Broad 9-10-8 Jacqui Oliver 86
14 F3-5 ALDAHE 43 (G) B Millman 8-10-7 D Salter (5) 87
15 61/3 SAGART AROON 38 (G) Miss S Pitman 13-10-7 Peter Hobbs 88
16 -0F1 MILDRED SOPHIA 2 (S) N Mitchell 6-10-2 (7ex) Miss S Mitchell (7) 93
17 38/P DRAW LOTS 81 P Rodford 9-10-0 D Matthews (5) –

4-1 See Now, 11-2 Early Breeze, 6-1 Mobile Messenger, 7-1 Sandro, 8-1 Boogie Bopper, 10-1 One To Note, Aldahe, 12-1 Hats High, 14-1 Mildred Sophia, Laabas, Brora Rose, 16-1 Corly Special, Cosmic Force, 20-1 others.

2.40 WEATHERBYS NEWCOMERS SERIES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,486: 2m 7f 110yd) (15)

1 423- ROYAL BATTERY 229 (G,S) D Barons 10-11-10 R Davis (3) 94
2 4111 TOUCHING STAR 13 (C,F,G) P Hobbs 8-10-11 M Hourigan 94
3 1-1F SHEER ABILITY 11 (S) C Mann 7-10-9 R Dunwoody 89
4 11-F RAFIKI 12 (C,F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 8-10-9 M A Fitzgerald 88
5 2-34 BERESFORDS GIRL 15 (CD,BF,F,G,S) P Murphy 8-10-8 E Murphy 98
6 14-0 GLOVE PUPPET 15 (G) G Balding 8-10-7 Richard Guest 85
7 1-3P DELGANY RUN 22 (G,S) Miss H Knight 9-10-5 J Osborne 90
8 6/4- HONEYBEER MEAD 419 (G) B Ryall 11-10-4 N Mann –
9 -PU4 FURRY KNOWE 15 (C,F) B De Haan 8-10-4 S McNeill 86
10 F-PF HEYFLEET 7 (B,F,S) Mrs J Pitman 10-10-1 I Lawrence 93
11 -31P PURBECK DOVE 16 (BF,G) R Alner 8-10-0 S Earle 99
12 -252 RED AMBER 16 (B,D,F,S) S Sherwood 7-10-0 M Richards 91
13 5-14 UNDER OFFER 21 (B,G,S) J King 12-10-0 A Maguire 89
14 -40P CAMDEN BELLE 28 (F,G) M Muggeridge 11-10-0 S Hodgson 68
15 3-03 ROCKMOUNT ROSE 15 (F) R Rowe 8-10-0 L Dace (7) 87

4-1 Sheer Ability, 11-2 Touching Star, 6-1 Red Amber, 8-1 Beresfords Girl, Delgany Run, Purbeck Dove, 10-1 Glove Puppet, Furry Knowe, 12-1 Royal Battery, Rafiki, 14-1 Under Offer, 16-1 Heyfleet, 20-1 others.

3.10 EXPRESS & ECHO HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,530: 2m 2f) (9)

1 4/2- BOOTSCRAPER 247 (C,F,G,S) P Leach 6-11-10 N Downs (7) 94
2 -111 EDIMBOURG 12 (CD,F,S) Miss H Knight 7-11-0 J Osborne 94
3 6-F0 MARIOLINO 13 (F,G,S) K Bishop 6-10-9 S Hodgson 98
4 3/0- ODSTONE PEAR 394 (F) P Leach 8-10-4 H Davies –
5 -404 ACCESS SUN 13 (F,S) J King 6-10-3 A Maguire 99
6 0-42 ISLAND JEWEL 12 (S) J Bosley 5-10-3 M Bosley 98
7 30-P SYLVIA BEACH 15 (F,S) P Murphy 7-10-0 E Murphy 93
8 0000 WINDWARD ARIOM 15 (F,G,S) K Burke 7-10-0 N Williamson 90
9 5F/P JOSIE SMITH 11 (S) Mrs A Knight 9-10-0 D Matthews (5) –

11-10 Edimbourg, 7-2 Island Jewel, 11-2 Access Sun, 8-1 Sylvia Beach, 12-1 Bootscraper, 14-1 Mariolino, 18-1 Odstone Pear, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Murphy, 3 winners from 6 rides, 50.0%; M Pipe, 95 from 260, 36.5%; Miss H Knight, 6 from 18, 33.3%; R Alner, 3 from 11, 27.3%; C James, 4 from 16, 25.0%; P Hobbs, 26 from 110, 23.6%.

JOCKEYS: M Foster, 12 winners from 42 rides, 28.6%; M Hourigan, 6 from 24, 25.0%; J Osborne, 5 from 23, 21.7%; Peter Hobbs, 16 from 74, 21.6%; R Dunwoody 17 from 84, 20.2%; D Matthews, 4 from 24, 16.7%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Folkestone

Going: good to soft

12.15 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, TOP WAVE (M A Fitzgerald, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Soleil Dancer (Peter Hobbs, 2-1 jt-fav); 3, My Senor (R Dunwoody, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Jalingo (pu), 7 Nordansk (4th). 5 ran. NR: Thuhool. 15l, 1l, 1½l. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £2.50: £2.00, £1.60. DF: £3.20. CSF: £5.91.

12.45 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, PONDERING (R Dunwoody, 8-11 fav); 2, Chief's Song (H Davies, 9-4); 3, Muhtashim (A Maguire, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Runaway Pete (6th), 12 Summer Wind, 20 One More Pound, 25 Heretical Miss, Silver Standard (5th), Smuggler's Point, Top Pet, 50 Any Minute Now (4th), July Bride (pu), Orchestion, Smart Daisy (pu). 14 ran. 6l, 20l, 4l, 6l, ¾l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £1.40, £4.20. DF: £2.50. CSF: £3.65.

1.15 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, HAPPY HORSE (A Tory, 10-1); 2, Buckingham Gate (R Dunwoody, 14-1); 3, Brightling Boy (Peter Hobbs, 12-1); 4, Prize Match (R Supple, 4-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Cheeky Fox (5th), 15-2 Rattic, 8 Dont Tell The Wife, 10 Alice's Mirror (pu), Cartax, 12 Sakil, 14 Sparkler Gebe (pu), 16 Al Sahil (6th), Stylish Gent, 20 Tropical Ace (pu), 33 Knighton Coombe, March Above, 50 Valgly Blazed (pu). 17 ran. NR: Golden Moss. 6l, 5l, 7l, 8l, 4l. Mrs J Renfree-Barons at Stockbridge. Tote: £10.80; £2.70, £1.80, £3.50, £1.70. DF: £128.20. Trio: £410.10. CSF: £143.38. Tricast: £1,585.32.

1.45 (2m 5f ch) 1, CANOSCAN (E Murphy, 6-5; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Star Actor (R Dunwoody, 13-2); 3, Midday Show (A Maguire, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 11-10 fav Jumbeau (f), 66 Flying Finish (f), 100 Dovehill (pu), Flutter Money (f), Salvager (pu). 8 ran. 12l, dist. Lady Herries at Arundel. Tote: £2.30; £1.40, £1.10, £2.50. DF: £6.30. CSF: £9.00.

2.15 (3m 2f ch) 1, CATCH THE CROSS (R Dunwoody, 5-1); 2, Annio Chilone (P Hide, 4-9 fav); 3, Gholar (P Holley, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 9 The Golfing Curate (pu), 14 Sam Shorrock (4th). 5 ran. 2½l, 10l, dist. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £5.00; £2.50, £1.20. DF: £2.50. CSF: £8.16.

2.45 (2m 5f ch) 1, GALLANT EFFORT (H Davies, 11-2); 2, Sun Surfer (B Powell, 4-5 fav); 3, Durrington (Richard Guest, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 2 Gandouge Glen (f), 40 Real Harmony (4th), 50 High Hagberg (pu). 6 ran. 10l, 15l, dist. S Dow at Epsom. Tote: £4.60; £1.90, £1.50. DF: £5.30. CSF: £10.19.

3.15 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, NEFARIOUS (M Richards, 9-2); 2, Southerly Gale (R Dunwoody, Evens fav); 3, Prince Of Salerno (R Supple, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 The Whip (4th), 8 Muscleton (pu), 12 Walton Thorns (5th), 25 Monkton (pu), 33 Cruise Control (pu), 66 Ballygriffin Lad (pu), Greenhill Go On (pu). 10 ran. 5l, nk, 7l, dist. M Campion at Worthing. Tote: £6.70; £2.40, £1.10, £2.10. DF: £3.40. CSF: £10.23.

Jackpot: £12,101.60 (0.39 winning tickets — pool of £10,397.22 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).
Placepot: £23.00.

Southwell

Going: standard

12.00 (1m) 1, CHILLY LAD (D Biggs, 4-6 fav); 2, Manolete (N Kennedy, 10-1); 3, Regal Rambler (S Sanders, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 8-2 Gold'n Shroud, 10 Sir Danny, 12 Just Junior (5th), 20 Dark Thoughts, Flying Imp, 33 Burntwood Melody (6th), Golden Hadeer (4th). 10 ran. 1l, hd, 6l, 5l, 1l. M Ryan at Newmarket. Tote: £1.50, £1.10, £1.90, £5.70. DF: £5.40. CSF: £9.20.

12.30 (2m) 1, MRS JAWLEYFORD (P McCabe, 9-2 fav); 2, Milngavie (D Biggs, 9-1); 3, Sharp Sensation (Alex Greaves, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 9 Qualitair Aviator, 10 Aide Memoire (5th), Electrolyte, Malenoir (4th), Mingus (6th), 12 Goodbye Millie, Mr Luciano, Pie Hatch, Record Lover, 16 Dock Of The Bay, 100 Sporting Spirit. 14 ran. NR: Kovalevskia. 3½l, 3½l, ½l, 8l, ¾l. C Smith at Wellingore. Tote: £6.80; £3.40, £4.40, £2.00. DF: £15.90. Trio: £86.70. CSF: £43.16. Tricast: £220.33.

1.00 (5f) 1, VERY DICEY (Ruth Coulter, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Sir Tasker (D Biggs, 8-1); 3, Tee-Emm (L Carter, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 4-1 jt-fav Elle Shaped, 5 Samson-Agonistes, 8 Pallium (4th), 12 Drum Sergeant, 16 Absolutely Nuts, Five Islands, Gentle Hero, Grand Time, 20 Last Straw, Make Mine A Double (5th), Savahra Sound, So Superb (6th), 33 Petite Lass, Tommy Tempest. 17 ran. 1½l, ¾l, ½l, 2½l, nk. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £5.50; £1.70, £3.20, £8.60. DF: £13.60. CSF: £30.86.

1.30 (1m) 1, MENTALASANYTHIN (A Mackay, 7-1); 2, Rural Lad (A Clark, 14-1); 3, State Flyer (N Carlisle, 20-1); 4, Desert Zone (J Williams, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Karinska (5th), 5 Kissavos, 7 Dream Carrier, 15-2 Causley, 8 Beverly Knight, 11 Roseate Lodge, 14 Bold Pursuit, 16 St Martha, 20 Appealing Times, Mejal, 25 Major Mouse (6th), Nellie's Gamble. 16 ran. 4l, 1l, 1l, 2l, 3l. A Bailey at Tarporley. Tote: £9.10; £1.10, £4.90, £9.20, £3.30. DF: £73.10. Trio: £231.90. CSF: £104.76. Tricast: £1,757.35.

2.00 (1m 4f) 1, APPLIANCEOFSCIENCE (M Baird, 8-1); 2, Breakdancer (S McCarthy, 8-1); 3, Betty Kenwood (C Adamson, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Sol Rouge (6th), 6 Don't Be Saki (4th), 8 Castle Bidder, 9 Prince Palacio, 10 Greenacres Star, 12 Jamaica Bridge, Noble Measure (ur), 14 Barsal, Kinchenjunga, 16 Dodger Dickins, 20 Olympic Way (5th), 25 Lady Confess, 33 Knight Shepherd, Whitehouse Gem. 17 ran. 4l, 3½l, 1½l, 4l, 1½l. K Wingrove at Norwich. Tote: £9.90; £2.60, £2.80, £33.30. DF: £114.80. CSF: £73.81.

2.30 (1m) 1, JUST HARRY (D Biggs, 11-4); 2, Winn's Pride (S Perks, 5-2 fav); 3, Jolly Swagman (J Williams, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Lincoln Treasure (6th), 6 Mytton's Choice (4th), 12 Bienvenu, 20 Miss Tipsy, Vayello (5th), 25 Nordic Madam. 9 ran. 6l, 1½l, 1½l, ½l, 4l. M Ryan at Newmarket. Tote: £3.60; £1.60, £1.80, £1.70. DF: £3.70. CSF: £10.40.

3.00 (7f) 1, QUEENS STROLLER (J Quinn, 2-1 fav); 2, Warhurst (S Mulvey, 4-1); 3, Charlies Dream (N Adams, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 7 Cazanove's Pet (4th), Floating Trial (6th), 10 Foresta Verde, 16 Mezza, Pastures New, 25 Bunny Run (5th), Ca Ira. 10 ran. 1l, 1l, 4l, 3l, ¾l. C C Elsey at Malton. Tote: £2.60; £2.00, £1.60, £2.80. DF: £4.30. Trio: £29.20. CSF: £10.18. Tricast: £43.59.

Placepot: £686.70.

Bangor off

THE scheduled meeting at Bangor today has been called off due to waterlogging. In spite of efforts to pump water away, the track remained unraceable, and the stewards abandoned at 8am yesterday.

Kelso's meeting tomorrow is also under threat. "There is frost in places on the track and, although it is 85 per cent raceable, we could not have raced today," a racecourse spokesman said.

Ryan completes Southwell double

MICK Ryan and stable jockey Darren Biggs combined to win both divisions of the Sheraton Maiden Stakes with Chilly Lad and Just Harry, at cumulative odds of over 5-1.

Chilly Lad, the 6-4 on favourite, had to work hard to win the first division, gaining the upper hand in the last 100 yards for a length success. Just Harry, at 11-4, was far more convincing, cruising home six lengths clear of Winn's Pride.

Mrs Jawleyford, backed from 7-1 to 9-2 favourite, opened her account on the level in the Louis Handicap. Her next outing will be at Britain's first meeting under floodlights at Wolverhampton on December 27.

"She always goes out with the first lot so is well used to the dark," owner-trainer Charles Smith joked. The mare, ridden by Patrick McCabe, went clear off the final turn to win by 3½ lengths.

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English game struggling on sticky wicket

David Miller, chief sports correspondent, has a fear that England could end in the second rank of cricket nations unless steps are taken to cure shortcomings in skills and standards



This "dismissal" of Rob Bailey, after the umpire had been pressurised by Vivian Richards, highlighted the need for match referees. Photograph: Ben Radford/Allsport

An incident during the Barbados Test between West Indies and England in 1990, controversially involving Vivian Richards, the home captain, was a watershed in cricket's disciplinary attitude, in the same way that the New Zealand captain, Sean Fitzpatrick's stamping on Philip de Glanville is likely to be in rugby union. A participating team cannot, surely, be relied upon to punish its own players, least of all its captain.

When Robert Bailey, the Northamptonshire batsman, played at a ball from Ambrose down the leg side in Barbados, there was no appeal from Desmond Haynes at midwicket. Richards, at slip, shouted: "Well bowled." When Lloyd Barker, the umpire, failed to raise his finger, Richards raced 40 yards towards him, gesturing and threatening. Slowly Barker lifted his arm.

Clyde Walcott, sitting in the grandstand with Sir Colin Cowdrey — whom he succeeded as president of the International Cricket Council two months ago — was appalled. It was next to impossible, however, to discipline Richards without a riot, the next Test being in his home island of Antigua, and there was no more than a severe private warning. This did not prevent Richards behaving again almost as provocatively in Antigua.

What the incident did do was to initiate the appointment of neutral Test match referees, some would say 60 years too late. There was no restraining hand on Douglas Jardine, the England captain, during the infamous Bodyline tour of 1932-33; never mind that Jardine, back home, himself scored 127 at Old Trafford against the "leg theory" of Constantine and Martindale that had proved so effective with Larwood and Bowes against Bradman.



The future of English cricket has fluctuated widely between success and failure since Jardine's cold-hearted triumph down under. At the moment, the scene is bleak. Not only have England floundered against India and Australia in the past 12 months, but the shortage of home-bred talent has obliged them for some years to field a team of players begged, borrowed or stolen from South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, or residentially transferred from the West Indies.

It was all very well for *Wisden* to state in 1967, following eight consecutive Test defeats, that the standard had "never been so low", even though the available squad included Boycott, Barber, Barrington, Cowdrey, Close, Amiss, D'Oliveira, Edrich, Graveney, Milburn, Titmus, Snow, M.J.K. Smith and Underwood. There were many genuine players then. Where are they now?

The crises confronting English cricket are not dissimilar from those in football, unsurprisingly since sport reflects society. The problems are:

First, an ineffectual national team, with endless and unresolved disputes within the Test and County Cricket Board on the best method of selection and management.

Second, a development scheme which, by comparison with Australia's, promotes schoolboy advancement to the senior game too slowly and matures them too late, in conjunction with an imprudent retention of older Test players who *might* have a second or third Indian summer.

Third, a reluctance to give a more strident lead in returning to, and retaining, sporting values, without which cricket, or indeed any game, is meaningless.

Fourth, an administrative muddle in which there are almost more committees and committee members than there are Test players; and which, if perpetuated, will see England slide down the ranking list of Test countries, as more and more such as Bangladesh, Holland, Kenya and Canada strive to follow in the wake of Zimbabwe, the ninth and newest Test nation.

Although a dozen neutral referees have been appointed to oversee five-day Tests, the irony is that cricket is unique among team sports, Law 42/1 calling upon the captain to be responsible for the players, at all times, playing "in the spirit of the game". The way life has developed, in and out of sport, some of the younger generation have little knowledge of what that spirit is.

It is imperative, in resisting the emotional and often extreme attempts of former regions of the empire to lower the rulers' flag, that England does not resort to comparable occasional intimidation and gamesmanship, as Mike Gatting notably did in Pakistan. Not even if this is the difference between defeat and victory. Somebody has to show that the game matters more than the result.

"Integrity is vital at the top, otherwise schools are corrupted," Cowdrey insists. "The captain has to be responsible. I played 15 times against Gary Sobers as captain, and I never saw one moment of sharp practice. Gary came from the humblest background ... yet he was the truest sportsman."

Cowdrey deplores the fact that his generation and that immediately preceding, as administrators have stood by and accepted the necessity for the kind of headgear worn in the futuristic film *Rollerball*. Were there more restraints, Cowdrey reflects, on pace bowling directed at the head — as opposed to, legitimately, at the ribs, as by Lindwall or Trueman — there would be a natural incentive to develop more spinners.

As Cowdrey observes, people have got to want to be led. "When I began, nothing was challenged," Cowdrey recalls. "Now cultures have changed, everything is challenged. We need someone dictatorial, like Lord Harris [autocratic MCC president who played for 70 years, a legendary administrator who resisted "throwing"]. We need to be ruthless."

The ICC is grappling with the laws, but only meets once a year. David Richards, the ICC chief executive, says: "There is a feeling that the crucial issues haven't been debated as much as they should — short-pitched bowling and the individual panel of umpires." ICC liaises slowly on Test regulations with MCC, which governs the laws.

Following a year's experiment in which umpiring was shared one-and-one between an independent and a home umpire, it is proposed extending the system to all Test series. (The ICC believes umpires should continue to have the chance to stand at home). But the one bouncer per-over per-batsman experimental limit, now entering its third year, is not viewed as satisfactory and the law will probably revert to the existing No 42/8, which requires a series of arbitrary warnings by the umpires. Not, shamefully, hitherto properly applied.

There is dismay among radical English administrators, such as Ossie Wheatley, chairman of the TCCB cricket committee, at last week's abandonment of the Test team policy created around Dexter, as chairman, Stewart (and then Fletcher), as manager, and the captain, Gooch and now Atherton. There is a reversion to the five-man selection committee, some of the reactionary counties having felt they were being bypassed.

Cricket, more than any other, is so much an "insiders" game, with an infinity of informed opinion. Cowdrey, for instance, favours last week's reversion, believing that the captain must always be more important than the manager — as the man on the field — and that "detached" selection is as essential.

Doug Insole, prolific county batsman, former Essex captain, Test selector, TCCB chairman and guru — who came from a non-establishment background — marginally sides with Cowdrey. "Team-manager is an overstatement," Insole says. "Ken Barrington was doing the job long ago without the title: a guiding hand at the nets, talking privately, imparting experience. But the manager doesn't carry the can, the captain does, so the captain is vital. And you do need a fourth, detached selector.



Douglas Jardine, orchestrator of a "cold-blooded" triumph in Australia

"Times fluctuate. So much is a matter of confidence. In 1992 we beat New Zealand, who hadn't lost at home for 12 years, and went to the final match at the Oval against Pakistan on level terms. Then collapse. Suddenly the older players were running out of steam."

What is needed is, as was intended, with the appointment of Dexter as England team chairman, is someone to take the pressure off the captain in public relations, leaving him free to handle the team. Dexter instead chose a withdrawn role, concentrating on all national team areas, leaving the captain and manager exposed. Yet the principle was essentially correct.

Insole laments that the TCCB — never mind conflicting ideas — is no more than made up of the best men available. "We need two things," he says. "To bring through our young better players from the schools more quickly, as the Australians do, and to keep in the game those former players of intelligence, whereas now we often lose them to commerce or to the media."

It is a frustrating contradiction, he reflects, that Australia does not have England's range of professionally organised training centres, coaching and scouting, but achieves more with the raw material. Slater, Hayden, Martyn and Warne are evidence of that. With a smaller professional structure, young Australians have to be more competitive and focused to succeed. It is, after all, only seven years since England trounced the Australians in Australia.

Unless England achieves a more compact, coherent administration, the drift away from more than a century of pre-eminence may continue. This year England and Australia, under pressure, conceded their power of veto within the ICC. That has gained them increasing respect and enhances the ICC's capacity to professionalise administration of the international game, which will undoubtedly expand among the 20 associate non-Test nations.

By the year 2020, England might find themselves — similar to the position now in football — playing on a par with Thailand, Nepal or Italy. Richards expects there to be a tenth Test country within ten years. Malaysia, one of the 20, is one of the fastest expanding nations in the world, not least in sport, and as Commonwealth Games hosts in 1998 is anxious to include cricket, and ICC will reach a policy decision in the next year: perhaps a 16-nation, one-day tournament.

The game has moved a long way from Hambledon over two centuries. England's hallowed ground is more widely threatened, long term, than is perceived by those preoccupied with traditional rivalry against Australia and West Indies. As well as improved young players, England urgently needs to unearth a more professional degree of management if it is to preserve its status, competitively and morally.

TOMORROW

Illusory shop window of British athletics

Reiffel inspires one-day success

PAUL Reiffel produced an outstanding all-round individual display to lead Australia to an overwhelming one-day international win over South Africa in Sydney yesterday. The South Africans had won the two previous one-day matches between the countries since returning to international competition two years ago, but, in front of a large crowd in the Sydney Cricket Ground, they collapsed to 69 all out and a 103-run defeat.

Defending what, at first, looked a vulnerable 172 for nine on a seaming wicket, Australia rattled through the South Africa batting line-up in just 28 overs to go top of the triangular World Series tournament, which also features New Zealand, with four points from three games.

Reiffel, who emerged during Australia's successful tour of England during the summer, took four wickets for 13 runs with his medium-fast swing bowling, caught one batsman, claimed another wicket with a run out from a direct throw and scored an unbeaten 29 in the Australian innings. At one stage, he captured three wickets without conceding a run from 19 balls.

South Africa struggled desperately to escape the defeat, even calling on Jonty Rhodes, who broke a bone in his left hand while fielding earlier in the day, to bat at No 9 in the order. He has, nonetheless, been advised not to play again for at least a fortnight to recover from his injury.

Allan Border, the Australia captain, later criticised the pitch, claiming that it was too balanced in favour of the bowlers for a one-day game.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA

M A Taylor run out	11
M J Slater c Rhodes b de Villiers	10
M E Waugh c Kirsten b Matthews	36
D C Boon c Richardson b Matthews	4
S R Waugh c Richardson b Cronje	13
*A R Border c de Villiers b Matthews	8
†I A Healy c Cronje b Donald	38
P R Reiffel not out	29
S K Warne c Cullinan b de Villiers	0
C J McDermott c Cronje b de Villiers	3
Extras (b 1, lb 4, w 7, nb 8)	20
Total (9 wkts)	172

G D McGrath did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-30, 3-44, 4-76, 5-95, 6-98, 7-164, 8-164, 9-172.

BOWLING: Donald 10-1-49-1; de Villiers 10-0-37-3; Snell 10-0-44-0, Matthews 10-0-23-3; Cronje 10-4-14-1.

SOUTH AFRICA

A C Hudson c Reiffel b McDermott	0
G Kirsten c Healy b McGrath	4
*K C Wessels lbw b Reiffel	18
W J Cronje c Healy b Reiffel	20
D J Cullinan c S R Waugh b McGrath	1
†D J Richardson c Healy b Reiffel	1
R P Snell b Reiffel	0
J N Rhodes not out	4
C R Matthews c Reiffel b S R Waugh	7
P S de Villiers run out	0
A A Donald b S R Waugh	0
Extras (lb 3, nb 2, w 8)	13
Total (28 overs)	69

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-23, 3-34, 4-38, 5-47, 6-48, 7-59, 8-65, 9-69.

BOWLING: McDermott 6-2-8-1, McGrath 8-0-25-2, Reiffel 8.4-1-13-4, S R Waugh 5.0-0-

'Neutral' umpires imminent

AN INTERNATIONAL panel of umpires could be established in time for the England tour of the West Indies in the new year.

The international cricket authorities have been trying to implement the scheme since 1991 and now appear to have succeeded, through a sponsorship deal with National Grid which would mean every Test match, including those in England from next summer onwards, being controlled by one umpire from the home country and a "neutral" official from overseas.

The International Cricket Council has called a news conference at Lord's next Tuesday at which it plans to announce "an important new international cricket sponsorship of interest to the nine Test match countries".

A pilot scheme in the past year has involved Dickie Bird standing in Tests between West Indies and Pakistan. David Shepherd, another of England's leading umpires, went to South Africa for a series against India, and Steve Bucknor, the West Indian, has also been on overseas duty.

Pace men scupper Zimbabwe

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IRRESISTIBLE fast bowling by Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis swept Pakistan to a 52-run victory over Zimbabwe in the countries' second Test match in Rawalpindi yesterday. Zimbabwe, needing 240 to win, collapsed from 135 for one to 187 all out with 4.4 overs to spare on the fifth and last day, giving Pakistan a 2-0 winning lead in the three-match series.

Wasim and Waqar shared nine wickets in the innings and mopped up the last five Zimbabwe batsmen for the loss of 40 runs in 16 overs after tea. Wasim, the Pakistan captain, returning to the team after a wrist injury that kept him out of the first Test, captured five for 65, and Waqar, who led the side to a 131-run win in the opening match in Karachi, took four for 50. Waqar, whose blistering pace bowling had brought him a 13-wicket haul in the first Test, has taken 22 wickets in the series.

Zimbabwe, having ended Pakistan's second innings for 248 in the morning, threatened to pull off an unexpected victory when a second-wicket partnership of 135 between Mark Dekker, who carried his bat for 68, and Alistair Campbell, who made 75, was in full flow. However, after Ata-ur-Rehman ended Campbell's scintillating innings, Wasim and Waqar sliced through the rest of the Zimbabwe batting line-up.

Campbell and Dekker, who also shared a century stand in the first innings, gave a repeat performance as Zimbabwe recovered from the loss of Grant Flower to the first ball of the innings from Wasim. Campbell carried the attack to the Pakistanis with strokes all round the wicket, following his 63 in the first innings by reaching making 50 off 89 balls, cracking six fours and lofting one six.

His third consecutive Test half-century — and fifth in six Tests — ended 30 minutes before tea when he miscued a hook off Rehman. That breakthrough was the start of a collapse in which the last nine wickets tumbled for 52. By the end, four of Zimbabwe's batsmen, including the brothers, Grant and Andrew Flower, had been dismissed without scoring.

Waqar's victims included the Zimbabwe captain, Andy Flower, with the aid of a spectacular catch by the wicketkeeper, Rashid Latif, in front of first slip.

Apart from Campbell and Dekker, only the last man, Stephen Peall, who scored ten, reached double figures, leaving Waqar to collect the man-of-the-match award for the second consecutive Test.

RAWALPINDI SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN: First Innings 245 (Asif Mujtaba 54 not out, D H Brain 4 for 41).

Second Innings

Aamer Sohail lbw b Streak	9
Shoaib Mohammad c A Flower b Streak	13
Inzamam-ul-Haq b Brandes	14
Ata-ur-Rehman lbw b Brain	0
Javed Miandad b Streak	10
Basit Ali lbw b Brandes	40
Asif Mujtaba c A Flower b Brain	51
†Rashid Latif c Houghton b Streak	61
*Wasim Akram lbw b Brandes	15
Waqar Younis c Campbell b Streak	17
Aqhlaq Ahmad not out	1
Extras (b 1, lb 11, w 3, nb 2)	17
Total	248

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-28, 3-39, 4-54, 5-58, 6-132, 7-209, 8-219, 9-240.

BOWLING: Brandes 31-9-71-3, Brain 34-6-73-2, Streak 29.3-3-56-5; Peall 8-4-13-0

ZIMBABWE: First Innings 254 (M H Dekker 68, A D R Campbell 63, Waqar Younis 5 for 88).

Second Innings

G W Flower b Wasim	0
M H Dekker not out	68
A D R Campbell c Aamer b Ata-ur	75
D L Houghton lbw b Waqar	4
*†A Flower c Rashid b Waqar	0
G J Whittall lbw b Wasim	0
G Brak-Jackson c Rashid b Wasim	4
D H Streak b Waqar	0
D Brain b Waqar	2
E A Brandes lbw b Wasim	1
S G Peall c Inzamam b Wasim	10
Extras (b 1, lb 11, nb 10, w 1)	23
Total	187

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-135, 3-140, 4-144, 5-147, 6-152, 7-153, 8-164, 9-168.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 23.2-3-65-5; Waqar Younis 21-4-50-4, Ata-ur-Rehman 8-1-22-1, Aqhlaq Ahmed 8-1-22-0, Shoaib Mohammad 4-1-16-0

England encounter climate of change

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN PORT ELIZABETH

TO GIVE some idea of the difference between Johannesburg, from where the England A cricketers departed yesterday morning restored to full fitness, and Port Elizabeth, where they arrived shortly after midday, a journey from London to Munich would be roughly comparable. Yet Johannesburg's dry heat some 6,000 feet up the Highveld contrasts sharply with "PE", by the Indian Ocean, which is unpleasantly humid.

"You must remember that this is a third world country", a steward at Jan Smuts Airport, having explained there were no international newspapers available, said. She had a point.

On arrival at the team's hotel yesterday the first task for Bob Bennett, the tour manager, was to send out for 14 take-aways. This is known as the Friendly City but the hotel is not so friendly that it serves food between breakfast and 6.30pm. It is also known as the Windy City, yet it needs more than a shared aquatic character, and exposed location, to rival Chicago.

The players are returning here for the final week of the tour, when South Africa A provide the opposition in a five-day "Test", so they had better get used to it. Before they meet Eastern Province at St George's Park on Friday there is a one-day match in the townships tomorrow.

Zwide is considered less combustible than Alexandra, where the tour kicked off with goodwill, and the local people are thought to be more cricket-conscious. The field England are playing on is named after Dan Qeqe, an African National Congress activist and sports administrator, who claimed the land for sporting purposes in the late Sixties.

In his day Qeqe was an opening batsman and leg spinner. Yesterday he went through Zwide in his car with a megaphone encouraging people to turn out for the biggest day in the club's history. The club, United CC, is one of the leading sides in the province.

There are six black players in the Invitation XI which is managed by the exotically-named Winky Ximiya. England have a full complement to select from although Mal Loye, one of the seven players who went down with gastro-enteritis on Sunday, is likely to be given an additional day's rest.

هكذا من الأصل

BBC1

6.00 **Business Breakfast** (37979)
7.00 **BBC Breakfast News** (97038399)
9.05 **Kilroy** (s) (4593486)
9.45 **Newshound**. Current affairs quiz (s) (4144202)
10.00 **News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1247134) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (3826979)
10.30 **Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick**. Weekday magazine (s) (15058979)
12.15 **Pebble Mill** with Ross King (s) (9351405) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (63539432)
1.00 **One O'Clock News** (Ceefax) and weather (64950)
1.30 **Neighbours** (Ceefax) (s) (71669955) **1.50 XYZ**. George Marshall introduces the alphabet quiz game (s) (77069991)
2.15 **Hawaii Five-O**. Seventies police drama starring Jack Lord. (r) (2982592)
3.05 **Today's Gourmet**. Chef Jacques Pepin looks at the bistro cooking of Lyons (8585405)
3.35 **Lifeline**. Jeremy Paxman appeals on behalf of the Camphill Village Trust (r) (s) (3581283)
3.45 **Spider** (r) (s) (1137689) **3.50 Pingu** (r) (7488202) **3.55 Harum Scarum**: *A Boy Wants a Dinosaur* by Hiawyn Oram, told by Paul Bhattacharjee, *Aldo*, by John Birmingham, told by Mirian Margolyes, and *Mine* by Hiawyn Oram, told by Sandi Toksvig (s) (1117825) **4.05 Rude Dog and the Dweebs**. Cartoon (r) (4442370) **4.20 Mortimer and Arabel**. Puppet fun (s) (4463863) **4.35 Artifax**. Design series (s) (8320486)
5.00 **Newsround** (8664009) **5.10 Grange Hill**. Drama series set in a comprehensive school (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4893825)
5.35 **Neighbours** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (809370). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (486)
6.30 **Regional News Magazines** (738). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours



Shelley Long and Tom Hanks move in (7.00pm)

7.00 **FILM: The Money Pit** (1985). Starring Tom Hanks and Shelley Long. Comedy following the antics of a lawyer and his musician girlfriend who buy their dream home, but discover it is actually their worst nightmare. Directed by Richard Benjamin. (Ceefax) (66028)
8.30 **Sitting Pretty** starring Diane Bull. There is a bout of illness in the family. (Ceefax) (s) (2115)
9.00 **Nine O'Clock News** with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (2573)
9.30 CHOICE **States of Terror: Dead or Alive**. (Ceefax) (s) (518776)
10.20 **FILM: History of the World – Part 1** (1981). Mel Brooks takes an irreverent look at various high and low spots in world history, including the last supper, the fall of the Roman Empire and the Spanish Inquisition. With Dom Deluise, Sid Caesar and Bea Arthur (226009). **Northern Ireland:** Christmas Pops with the Ulster Orchestra 11.10 *If You See God, Tell Him* 11.55-1.35 History of the World Part 1
11.55 **Depeche Mode**: Devotional. Recorded earlier this year during the band's current world tour (650931)
12.45am **Weather** (8908500). Ends at **12.50**
2.15-3.45 **BBC Select**: Accountancy Television (723871); **3.15** Legal Network Television (20871)
4.00-5.15 **BBC Select**: TV Edits German 2 TV5 (1718448) 4.45 ATV Promo 4 (93239)

BBC2

6.50 **FILM: The Falcon in Mexico** (1944, b/w) starring Tom Conway. The Falcon is a suave sleuth who travels to Mexico to investigate the mysterious death of an art gallery owner. Directed by William Berke (5587028) **8.00 Breakfast News** (Ceefax) (2381467) **8.15 Westminster Daily** (9173689)
9.00 **FILM: The Young Lovers** (1954, b/w) starring Odile Versois and David Knight. Cold War romance set in Fifties London. Directed by Anthony Asquith (18405)
10.30 **FILM: Annie Oakley** (1935, b/w) starring Barbara Stanwyck in the title role as the female sharpshooter. Directed by George Stevens (75047)
12.00 **Play Chess!** (r) (3827738) **12.10 A Fisherman's Diary**. Trout fishing (r) (8018318) **12.40 Glynn Christian's Serendipity**. The food of Sri Lanka (r) (61914318) **12.50 The Allotment Show** from Darlington (r) (2031009)
1.20 **Brum** (r) (38297912) **1.30 Stoppit and Tidyup** (r) (23532825) **1.35 The Story of English Furniture**. Regency (r) (20087738)
2.00 **News** (Ceefax) and weather (68987979) **2.05 The Colours Of My Father**. Animator Joyce Borenstein talks about the work of her artist father (2814009) **2.35 CountryFile**. Rural affairs (r) (s) (1400931)
3.00 **News** (Ceefax) and weather (9816370) **3.05 Westminster Live** (Ceefax) (7111937) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (1116196) **4.00 Catchword**. Word game with Paul Cola (979)
4.30 **A Question of Sport** (r). (Ceefax) (863)
5.00 **Today's the Day**. History quiz (2738) **5.30 The Food and Drink Christmas Quiz** (r) (s) (115)
6.00 **Star Trek**. A web of energy is slowly throttling the Enterprise (r) (Ceefax) (277009)
6.50 **Def II: Rough Guide to World Travel**. Advice on making the most of your air ticket (Ceefax) (952573)
7.30 **Open Space**. Young British Muslim Saqib Qureshi investigates the aggressive approach to conversion of Britain's Islamic community (Ceefax) (592)



Israeli novelist David Grossman (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **Bookmark: See Under – Peace** (Ceefax) (114912)
8.50 CHOICE **Celebrity Mantelpiece**. (Ceefax) (s) (527405)
9.00 **Seinfeld**. American comedy series (205793)
9.25 **Stark**. CD battles to keep up with Rachel's scheming (Ceefax) (s) (199399)
10.20 **Along the Ridgeway**. Singer Marianne Faithfull retraces a favourite childhood walk (r) (677660)
10.30 **Newsnight** with Peter Snow (Ceefax) (525486)
11.15 **The Late Show**. Barry Diller's prediction about the future of television (r) (s) (676844)
11.55 **Weather** (391931)
12.00 **FILM: The Body Snatcher** (1945, b/w). Robert Louis Stevenson's tale provides the inspiration for this piece of ghoulish fun. Directed by Robert Wise. (8928245). Ends at **1.15am**

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CHOICE

States of Terror
BBC1, 9.30pm

Those who have followed Peter Taylor's illuminating series about international terrorism must have wondered when he would come to Northern Ireland. Wonder no longer, this is the night. Taylor concentrates on two agents who infiltrated paramilitary groups on behalf of British intelligence. One has lived to tell the tale, though he is understandably cautious about saying too much. In what Taylor calls "a world of treachery, lies and deceit", this man informed not for the money but to save lives. The other agent was unmasked by the IRA, interrogated for ten days and dumped in South Armagh with a bullet through his head. His taped "confession" forms the basis of the film. As usual Taylor marshals his material for maximum impact.

Bookmark
BBC2, 8.00pm

David Grossman is Israel's leading novelist. His writings have gone to the heart of Jewish experience in the 20th century. An early book, *See Under: Love* dealt with the Holocaust. But he is far from being an uncritical apologist for the Zionist cause. On the contrary he has written with sympathy and understanding about the position of Palestinians in the occupied territories. This profile was filmed during the week in which Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation signed their peace agreement. It is a portrait of a man of sensitivity and principle who *cannot help being shaped by his past* (his father was a refugee from Poland) *but is not prepared to swallow* the rhetoric of the politicians.



Byrne and Anholt in a political scandal (ITV, 9.00pm)

Crime Story: The Stonehouse Affair
ITV, 9.00pm

Older viewers will recall John Stonehouse as a rising star of the Labour Government of the 1960s. According to this dramatisation his ambitions were to become a millionaire and Prime Minister. Thwarted in both, and in deep financial trouble, he bizarrely staged his own death and tried to start a new life in Australia with his secretary-mistress, Sheila Buckley. It is a story rich in irony and bathos, waiting for the pen of, say, an Alan Bennett. Meanwhile we have to settle for a version that is no more than workmanlike and tends to throw away the key scenes. The fake demise is perfunctorily handled and the narrative ends before Stonehouse and Buckley come to trial. Tony Anholt and Allie Byrne do their best to give the pair flesh.

Celebrity Mantelpiece
BBC2, 8.50pm

Enoch Powell rounds off an enjoyable little series in a book-cluttered study contemplating "a limbo of memory". It is not really a mantelpiece, rather the top of a bookcase, but it more than fits the purpose. A starfish evokes his first seaside holiday, just before the end of the First World War. A steel engraving of a forgotten scholar prompts Powell to an immodest recollection of sweeping the classical prizes at Cambridge. A portrait of the poet A.E. Housman sparks a tribute to the dominant academic influence of his undergraduate life. Lead soldiers take Powell back to his army days and his fascination for India. Ten minutes are not nearly enough. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 **GMTV** with Lorraine Kelly and Eamonn Holmes **9.00 Top of the Morning**. Family magazine programme with Amanda Redington (4614950)
9.25 **Supermarket Sweep**. Game show hosted by Dale Winton **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (3802399)
10.00 **The Time . . . The Place**. Topical studio discussion chaired by John Stapleton (7316318)
10.35 **This Morning**. Weekday magazine with Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (15042318) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9142370)
12.30 **ITN Lunchtime News** (Teletext) (2042115)
12.55 **Coronation Street** A repeat of Monday's episode (Teletext) (2050134) **1.25 Home and Away**. Australia family drama serial. (Teletext) (26579283) **1.55 A Country Practice**. Medical drama series set in the Australian outback (s) (80114860)
2.20 **The Chrystal Rose Show**. Is marriage an unnatural state for man? (17801370) **2.50 The Young Doctors**. Drama serial set in Australian hospital (5816134)
3.20 **ITN News** headlines (9823660) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9822931)
3.30 **Alphabet Castle** (s) (3577080) **3.40 Wizadora**. Wizadora is distracted by a vacuum cleaner (1114738) **3.50 Old Bear Stories** (s) (3588196) **4.05 Avenger Penguins**. Animation (7498689) **4.30 Cartoon** featuring Speedy and Sylvester (8096009) **4.40 Woof!** The awful Mrs Fuller is poised to take over the Thomas household. (Teletext) (s) (2614202)
5.10 **Home and Away** (r) (Teletext) (1782842)
5.40 **ITN Early Evening News** (Teletext) and weather (442134)
6.00 **London Tonight** (Teletext) (65028)
7.00 **Lose a Million**. Three more contestants try to lose their starting jackpot of £1 million. Presented by Chris Tarrant (s) (9028)

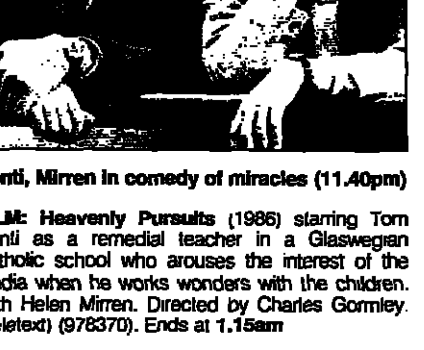


Simon Gregson and Mike Le Vell (7.30pm)

7.30 **Coronation Street**. Kevin and Steve end up in court to face the consequences of their illegal actions. (Teletext) (318)
8.00 **Des O'Connor Tonight**. The guests are Barry Manilow, Cilla Black, French and Saunders, Mike Reid and the Pet Shop Boys (s) (5399)
9.00 CHOICE **Crime Story: The Stonehouse Affair** (Teletext) (8863)
10.00 **News at Ten** (Teletext) and weather (23554) **10.30 London Tonight** (376202)
10.40 **Carlton Sport**. Matthew Lorenzo presents tonight's action from the Coca-Cola Cup as survivors battle for a place in the quarter-finals (647047)
11.40 **FILM: The Savage Bees** (1976) starring Ben Johnson. Panic breaks out at the New Orleans Mardi Gras weekend when killer bees escape from a cargo ship. Directed by Bruce Geller (475573)
1.30am **Hollywood Report**. News and gossip from Tinseltown (s) (77332)
2.00 **The Chrystal Rose Show** (r) (s) (92087)
2.30 **America's Top Ten**. Richard Blade presents the latest news on the American music scene (s) (85332)
3.00 **Entertainment UK**. Arts magazine (s) (45055)
4.00 **60 Minutes**. American current affairs programme (r) (69177)
5.00 **Riviera**. French soap opera (15516)
5.30 **ITN Morning News** (42429) Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

7.00 **The Big Breakfast** (54573)
9.00 **You Bet Your Life**. American game show presented by Bill Cosby (r). (s) (33931)
9.30 **FILM: The Young Mr Pitt** (1942, b/w) starring Robert Donat as the man who became Britain's youngest Prime Minister. Directed by Carol Reed (93601486)
11.35 **FILM: In the Spotlight** (1935, b/w) starring Hal LeRoy as a dancing cabin boy whose future is altered when he meets a showman's daughter (1263467)
12.00 **House to House** with Maya Even (20467)
12.30 **Sesame Street**. Early learning series for the under-fives (83115)
1.30 **The Magic Roundabout** followed by **The Clangers, Paddington and Ivor the Engine** (r) (70950)
2.00 **FILM: Ten Gentlemen from West Point** (1942, b/w) starring Maureen O'Hara and George Montgomery. A fictionalised account of the founding of the military academy West Point. Directed by Henry Hathaway (604280)
3.50 **Raindance**. Animation (7471912)
3.55 **Check Out 93**. A repeat of yesterday's consumer programme (s) (5990573)
4.30 **Fifteen to One**. William G. Stewart fires the questions in the general knowledge quiz. (Teletext) (s) (931)
5.00 **The Oprah Winfrey Show**. America's best-loved agony aunt invites former spouses to arrange blind dates for their divorced partners. (Teletext) (s) (1936486) **5.50 Laurel and Hardy**. Cartoon (941196)
6.00 **The Crystal Maze**. Richard O'Brien challenges six more intrepid contestants to battle for the prized crystals (r) (s) (56370)
7.00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletext) and weather (851405)
7.50 **Refugee Stories**. In the last programme in the series, Veljko Gavric speaks of his hopes for the future and his fears for his country. (Teletext) (497405)
8.00 **Brookside**. Drama serial set in suburban Liverpool. (Teletext) (s) (6318)
8.30 **Travelog**. Comic Julian Clary visits Los Angeles and tries to book a room at the Bates Motel; and Sandi Toksvig sets off around Greece on foot. (Teletext) (s) (5825)
9.00 **Dispatches**. Professor Alan Smithers' specially commissioned report on the Government's updated education system (Teletext) (468931)
9.45 **The Almost Complete History of the Twentieth Century**. The last programme in the series looks at human under-achievement. (Teletext) (285318)
10.00 **The Golden Girls**. Cult American comedy series. Rose is upset when her cousin arrives from the old country (r). (Teletext) (s) (669757)
10.35 **Sean's Show**. Sean decides to prove to Trudy that his days of one-night stands are over (s) (866134)
11.05 **Moviewatch**. A repeat of Sunday's programme (s) (681776)



Conti, Mirren in comedy of miracles (11.40pm)

11.40 **FILM: Heavenly Pursuits** (1986) starring Tom Conti as a remedial teacher in a Glaswegian Catholic school who arouses the interest of the media when he works wonders with the children. With Helen Mirren. Directed by Charles Gormley. (Teletext) (978370). Ends at **1.15am**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW. 4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **7.00** Mark Goodier **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** News '93 **6.30** Evening Session **9.00** The Knowledge: Alan Freeman asks if music really matters (r) **9.30** Dance Energy **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.05** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 **8.00** Womanfolk **8.30** Harding with a Mike **9.00** Sir Ranulph Fiennes's World of Christmas **9.30** Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Dilemmas **10.25** Johnnie Walker with the AM Alternative **12.30pm** Education Matters **1.00** News and Sport **1.10** The Crunch **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-In **6.30** Hero to Zero, by John Salthouse (final part) **7.15** Crazy Christmas, by Jeanne Betancourt. Kimberly Bevers reads the final part **7.30** Trevor Brooking's Football Night **10.10** Hit the North **12.00-12.10am** News: Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin: Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Development '93 **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The Multitrack Sessions **8.30** Quote, Unquote **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Country Style **9.30** Homeward Bound **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News **10.01** Omnibus **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** New Ideas **12.35** Trees **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: Vintage Thurber **2.45** Good Books **3.00** News **3.15** Images of Britain **3.30** The Voices of America **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.15** Sports International **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** From Our Own Correspondent **11.30** Multitrack 2 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** The Voices of America **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Waveguide **1.40** Book Choice **1.45** The Farming World **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Sports International **3.00** News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Assignment **4.00** News **4.15** The Farming World

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Shostakovich (Violin Concerto No 1 in A minor: Steven Staryk; Toronto SO under Andrew Davis) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** Book Browse **8.00** Evening Concert: Schubert, arr Mahler (Quartet, Death and the Maiden: Moscow Soloists); Mahler (Kindertotenlieder: Jessye Norman, soprano, Boston SO); Beethoven, arr Mahler (Quartet in F minor, Op 95) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Kevin Greening **4.00** Tommy Vance **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Tommy Rivers

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News And Weather (9142370) **1.55** A Country Practice (80114860) **2.20-2.50** Cooking At The Academy (17801370) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (9822931) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (1782842) **6.00** Home And Away (239863) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (171486) **10.30** Anglia News (376202) **10.40** Film: Spellbinder (88878134) **12.35am** Film: Sky Pirates (118332) **2.10** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3222090) **2.40** 60 Minutes (9215606) **3.30** Cue The Music (7741210) **4.35** Riviera (99160697) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7429413)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 Shortland Street (80114860) **2.20** Gardening Time (17801370) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (5816134) **3.25-3.30** Central News (9822931) **5.10-5.40** Talkabout (1782842) **6.00** Home And Away (239863) **6.25-7.00** Central News (171486) **10.30** Central News (376202) **10.40** Central Sports Special (647047) **11.40** The Equalizer (568509) **12.35am** Crime International (9719622) **1.05** Entertainment U.K. (7400516) **2.05** Stage Two (1969158) **3.05** BPM (7587622) **4.05** Central Jobfinder 93 (4208210) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (6822429)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (80114860) **2.20-2.50** Gardening Time (17801370) **3.25-3.30** HTV News (9822931) **6.00** HTV News (554) **6.30-7.00** Wish You Were Here..? (134) **10.30** HTV News (376202) **10.40** Central Sports Special (647047) **11.40** Night Heat (568509) **12.35am** Film: Sky Pirates (118332) **2.10** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3222090) **2.40** 60 Minutes (9215606) **3.30** Cue The Music (7741210) **4.35** Riviera (14712956) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (15516)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00 Wales At Six (554) **6.30-7.00** The Gen (134) **10.40-11.40** Top Sport (647047) **4.55am-5.30** Jobfinder (7429413)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (80114860) **2.20** Great House Cookery (17801370) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (5816134) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (554) **6.30-7.00** Serve You Right (134) **10.30** Meridian News & Weather (376202) **10.40** Midweek Sport (4320239) **12.00am-1.30** Film: Weekend Of Terror (92239) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (15516)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 12.20pm Tyne Tees News (9168318) **12.25-12.30** Where The Jobs Are (9167689) **1.55** A Country Practice (80114860) **2.20-2.50** Yan Can Cook (17801370) **3.15-3.20** Farm Fun (9833047) **3.25-3.30** Tyne Tees News (9822931) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (834318) **6.30-7.00** Talkabout (134) **10.30** Tyne Tees News (376202) **10.40** Street Legal (647047) **11.40** Film: Big Bob Johnson And His Fantastic Speed Circus (786478) **1.25am** Hollywood Report (9284055) **1.55** Videofashion (9504897) **2.10** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (1836790) **2.25** Transworld Sport (1884413) **3.25** Music Box (5146061) **4.20-5.30** Jobfinder (5490784)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Westcountry Latest (3802399) **12.20pm-12.30** Westcountry Latest (9142370) **1.55** Take The High Road (20083912) **2.25** Westcountry Focus: Power Game (17800641) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (1417221) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (9822931) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (65028) **10.30** Westcountry Latest (376202) **10.40** The Westcountry Match (647047) **11.40** The Equalizer (657844) **12.30am** My Story (3993023) **12.35** Film: Sky Pirates (118332) **2.10** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3222090) **2.40** 60 Minutes (9215606) **3.30** Cue The Music (7741210) **4.35** Riviera (99160697) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7429413)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Calendar News (9142370) **1.55** A Country Practice (80114860) **2.20-2.50** Great Little Gardens (17801370) **3.15-3.20** Farm Fun (9833047) **3.25-3.30** Calendar News (9822931) **5.55** Calendar (834318) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (134) **10.30** Calendar News (376202) **10.40** Street Legal (647047) **11.40** Film: Big Bob Johnson And His Fantastic Speed Circus (786478) **1.25am** Hollywood Report (9284055) **1.55** Videofashion (2277142) **2.25** Transworld Sport (1884413) **3.25** Music Box (5146061) **4.20-5.30** Jobfinder

S4C
Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (54573) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (33931) **9.30** Film: The Young Mr Pitt (93601486) **11.35** In The Spotlight (1263467) **12.00pm** House To House (20467) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (2040757) **12.55** Sesame Street (5178841) **1.55** Film: Mad About Men (43147683) **3.30** Check Out '93 (912) **4.00** Slot 23 (6399) **5.00** Gamesmaster (2414) **5.30** Fifteen To One (283) **6.00** Newyddion (312660) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (581863) **6.25** Heno (179028) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (2270) **7.30** Dim Ond Celf (660) **8.00** Glan Hafren (6318) **8.30** Newyddion (5825) **9.00** Halen Yn Y Gwaed (8405) **10.00** Brookside (21196) **10.30** Film: Stand By Me (80302318) **12.10am** Good Ideas Of The 20th Century (6506535) **12.25** Dispatches (3294061)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 On Air, presented by Andrew McGregor. Delius, orch Fenby (Two Aquarelles); Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 6 in B flat, BWV 1051); Dvořák (Czech Suite, Op 39); Antonacci (Sinfonia Pastorale); Vaughan Williams (Prelude on Three Welsh Hymn Tunes); Prokofiev (Violin Concerto No 2 in G minor)
9.00 **An Advent Calendar**: The Choir of New Hall School, Chelmsford, under Andrew Fardell, performs Trad (A Virgin Unspotted) and Anon (Resonet in laudibus)
9.10 **Composer of the Week**: Elliott Carter (Three Poems of Robert Frost, Cello Sonata, Oboe Concerto)
10.10 **Midweek Choice**, presented by Susan Sharpe. Tchaikovsky (Coronation March); Mozart (Piano Sonata in A, K331); Komzák (Waltz, Bad'ner Mad'ln, Op 257); Stravinsky (Requiem Canticles); Bach (Harpsichord Concerto in D minor, BWV 1052); Schumann (Symphony No 4 in D minor)
12.00 **Songs of Life and Love** (r)
1.00pm **News**
1.05 **Concert Hall**, live from Broadcasting House, London. Anthony Marwood, violin, and William Howard, piano, play Prokofiev (Violin Sonata No 1 in F minor) and Ravel (Violin Sonata)
2.00 **Record Review** (r)
3.30 **Music in Pepys's London**: In the second of four programmes, readings from Pepys's diaries are interwoven with period music for chamber and court. Jenkins (Pavan and Dances); Henry Lawes (Dialogues: This Mossy Bank; The Angler's Song); Locke (Canon)
4.00 **Choral Evensong**, live from the Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick
5.00 **In Tune**: Handel (Arrival of the Queen of Sheba, Solomon); Dvořák (Scherzo Capriccioso, Op 66); Schoenberg (Tanzscene, Serenade, Op 24); Debussy (Feux d'artifice, Préludes, Book 2)
7.30 **A Mozart Concert**, live from Wigmore Hall, London. The Nash Ensemble reconstructs one of the chamber music programmes given at the Leipzig Gewandhaus in the late 19th century to celebrate its 250th anniversary as a concert-giving organisation. Clarinet Trio in E flat, K498; String Quintet in C minor, K406; Wind Serenade in B flat, K361
9.35 **History Now and Then**: Roy Porter chairs the third of four discussions. Tonight, Maxine Berg, Roderick Floud and Sidney Pollard debate the industrial revolution
9.55 **An Advent Sequence**: The BBC Singers under Bo Holten sing Arvo Pärt's Seven Advent Antiphons, with motets by Tallis, Sheppard and da Rore. Recorded in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
10.45 **Night Waves**: Robert Hewison profiles American photographer Cindy Sherman, and French and Saunders come to the West End
11.30 **Ensemble**, with Vanessa Latarche, piano. Bach (Prelude and Fugue in C sharp); Mendelssohn (Prelude and Fugue in F minor; Variations sérieuses); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in B flat minor; Italian Concerto, BWV 971); Mendelssohn (Prelude and Fugue in E minor)
12.30am **News 12.35-12.45 An Advent Calendar** (as 9am)

RADIO 4

5.55am **Shipping Forecast 6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day with Dick Williams **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day with Charles Handy **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 **News**
9.05 **Midweek**, with Libby Purves and Brian Hayes
10.00-10.30 **Gosling on the High Street** (FM only): Ray Gosling reports on businessmen with principles. Today, he tracks down the descendants of the Quaker Joseph Rowntree
10.00 **News; Daily Service** (LW only)
10.15 **The Bible** (LW only): Obadiah and Jonah. Read by June Barrie and Christian Rodska (r)
10.30 **Woman's Hour**, introduced by Jenni Murray. Claire Jenkins reveals the secret history of the stocking. Serial: *The Very Dead of Winter* (8/10). Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 **Gardeners' Question Time**: Members of the Greenmeadow Community Farm in Cwmbran put their questions to the experts (r)
12.00 **News; You and Yours**, with John Howard
12.25pm **Up the Garden Path**, by Sue Limb. With Imelda Staunton as Izzy, Mike Grady as Dick and Sion Probert as Gwyn **12.55** Weather
1.00 **The World at One**, with James Naughtie
1.40 **The Archers** (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; Wednesday Afternoon Serial**: The Crack. Stephen Butchard's *Sunday*. See Choice
2.47 **Treasure Islands**: See Choice
3.00 **News; File on 4**: Last in the series (r)
3.42 **It's a Funny Old World**: Miles Kington discovers what makes the Israelis laugh
4.00 **News 4.05 Kaleidoscope** reviews the new Mel Brooks movie, *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*, and picks the best of the year's film books
4.45 **Short Story**: Abramski, by Esther Woolfson. Read by Michael Elder
5.00 **PM**, with Jon Sopel and Hugh Sykes **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **Word of Mouth**: Frank Delaney celebrates the tired old cliché (r)
7.00 **News 7.05 The Archers**
7.20 **Costing the Earth**: Environmental magazine (r)
7.45 **Medicine Now**, with Geoff Watts (r)
8.15 **Age to Age**: Christopher Cook considers crime waves, the jury system, penal reform and J. Edgar Hoover (r)
8.45 **Groucho Was My Father**: Miriam Marx Allen offers a glimpse of the man behind the moustache. Compiled by Tony Staveacre (r)
9.15 **Kaleidoscope** (r)
9.45 **The Financial World Tonight**, with Martin Webber **9.59** Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**, with Richard Kershaw
10.45 **Book at Bedtime**: Bel Ami, by Guy de Maupassant. Read by Alex Jennings (3/12)
11.00 **Pedalling Backwards**: David Bean and Laurence Cantwell retrace their boyhood cycle trip around Yorkshire and Lancashire in 1947 (r)
11.30 **Today in Parliament**
12.00-12.43am **News**, incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

Treasure Islands. *Radio 4, 2.47pm.*

In festive mood, the children's books programme stages a quiz to see how much, or little, its selected panel of writers and critics have absorbed about youngsters' reading habits. They emerge with their reputations more or less intact. Otherwise, it could have been humiliating for them because they face a young audience who, when their participation is required, demonstrate that their knowledge of fiction does not begin with *The Beano* and end with Roald Dahl. Part two of the quiz can be heard next week.

The Crack: Sunday. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

Slowly and subtly, the threads are being pulled together in this quartet of plays about a weekend in working-class Liverpool. All are written by different hands, recorded on location and focus on someone cracking up under the strains of life. *Sunday*, by Stephen Butchard, incorporates characters from the two earlier plays. The new characters are a distraught mother and her elusive son, a defrocked priest. Realistically drawn by Butchard, the roles are realistically played by Val Lilley and Michael Christopher. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN: MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (83945931) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (7730467) **9.10** Cartoons (4428689) **9.30** Card Sharks (9086660) **9.55** Concentration (9001979) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7507283) **10.30** Love at First Sight (71115) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (44414) **12.00** Urban Peasant (62467) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (97641) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (92196) **2.00** Seventh Avenue (53370) **3.00** Another World (6434009) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5661047) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8573) **6.00** Games World (3115) **6.30** Paradise Beach (4467) **7.00** Rescue (7202) **7.30** Growing Pains (3979) **8.00** Hunter (35825) **9.00** Picket Fences (55689) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (58776) **11.00** The Untouchables (90399) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (71142) **1.00am** Night Court (44581) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (74210)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise Europe (53931) **9.30** ABC Nightline (86399) **10.30** Fashion TV (44825) **11.30** Japan Business Today (64467) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (48641) **1.30** CBS News (49370) **2.30** Parliament Live (17888) **4.30** News and Business Report (3592) **5.00** Live at Five (128979) **7.30** Fashion TV (4221) **9.30** Talkback (15047) **11.30** CBS News (64757) **12.30am** ABC News (97603) **1.30** Fashion TV (71448) **2.30** Those Were the Days (86806) **3.30** Talkback (91351) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (82608) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (97993)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (5248405)
10.00 The Hostage Tower (1980): Alistair MacLean thriller with Peter Fonda (25347)
12.00 The Secret War of Harry Frigg (1969): Paul Newman stars in this Second World War satire (67573)
2.00pm Against a Crooked Sky (1975): A girl is kidnapped by Indians (49028)
4.00 The Wackiest Ship in the Army (1960): Jack Lemmon heads the crew of a decoy gunship in the South Pacific (1405)
6.00 Fall from Grace (1990): Fact-based story of the rise and fall of television evangelists the Rev Jim Bakker and his wife Tammy. With Kevin Spacey (52592)
8.00 K2 (1991): Two explorers attempt to climb the world's second highest mountain. With Michael Biehn and Matt Craven (31009)
10.00 Pink Cadillac (1989): Clint Eastwood hunts bail jumpers (22863)
12.00 The Pamela Principle (1992): Adult drama with J.K. Dumont (520993)
1.45am Ski School (1990): Comedy about rival ski instructors (816993)
3.20 No Place to Hide (1992): Cop Kris Kristofferson teams up with teenage orphan Drew Barrymore (289516). Ends at **4.55**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Miracle on 34th Street (1947, b/w): Sentimental story about a department store Santa Claus (Edmund Gwenn) (36592)
8.00 Yankee Doodle Dandy (1942, b/w): Biopic of the song-and-dance man George M. Cohan. With James Cagney (54358202)
10.05 Last Embrace (1979). Hitchcockian thriller starring Roy Scheider as a CIA agent who believes that he is a murder target (780757). Ends at **11.45**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am If I Were King (1938, b/w): Preston Sturges comedy with Basil Rathbone (34592)
8.00 Sleeping Beauty: Fairy tale (75592)
10.00 The Denver and Rio Grande (1952): Rival railway workers compete to lay track through a dangerous gorge (25329)
12.00 Rumpelstiltskin: (1987): Children's story with Amy Irving and Clive Revill (65115)
2.00pm Big Ideas: A young boy fights pollution spoiling a bay (30370)
4.00 Sleeping Beauty. Morgan Fairchild stars in the classic fairy tale (9047)
6.00 Woman with a Past (1992): A wife and mother is accused of armed robbery (50134)
8.00 Overexposed (1990): A woman is tricked into believing that her husband is having an affair. With Marcy Walker (62979)
10.00 Stone Cold (1991): Cop Brian Bosworth goes undercover (873931)
11.35 Fatal Exposure (1991): A single mum and her two young sons dodge sniper fire when their holiday snaps get mixed up with those of an assassin's next target (348863)
1.05am Carolina Skeletons (1991): Louis Gossett Jr as a marine who returns home to clear his brother's name (466055)
2.40 I'm Dancing as Fast as I Can (1982): A television producer becomes addicted to tranquilisers. With Jill Clayburgh (190662)
4.30 Woman With a Past (as 6pm) (86245). Ends at **6.00**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (6134825) **7.15** Prime Bodies (243973) **7.45** Snowboarding Tour (693414) **8.15** Soccer News (2687738) **8.30** The Boss (58863) **9.00** Prime Bodies (49115) **9.30** Field Hockey (13467) **10.30** Kick Boxing (88283) **11.30** Motorsport (24863) **12.30pm** The Boss (87863) **1.00** The Football Show (82318) **2.00** European Open Snooker (254028) **5.00** Drag Racing (4134) **5.30** Motor World (6844) **6.00** Soccer News (396757) **6.15** Sportsworld (526047) **7.00** FA Cup Football: Live coverage of a second round replay (973841) **10.00** Soccer News (224467) **10.15** European Open Snooker (404283) **12.15am** French Football League (819185) **1.15-3.15** FA Cup Football (as 7pm) (806581)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (46592) **8.00** Figure Skating: Junior World Championships (62860) **10.00** Alpine Skiing World Cup (42776) **11.00** Eurogoals (22912) **12.00** Eurotennis (92283) **2.00pm** Eurofun Magazine (8950) **2.30** American Football: Pittsburgh v Miami (92844) **4.00** Winter Olympics Update (1776) **4.30** Athletics: Fukuoka Marathon, Japan (59912) **5.30** Show Jumping World Cup Final (51844) **6.30** Eurosport News (2405) **7.00** Boxing (47221) **9.00** Motors Magazine (75467) **10.00** Football: Toyota Cup Update (64863) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (38210)

UK GOLD
7.00am GP (7074554) **7.30** Neighbours (7093689) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2120573) **8.30** EastEnders (2129844) **9.00** The Bill (2110196) **9.30** Juliet Bravo (7360919) **10.30** The Brothers (9500641) **11.30** Rhoda (7364660) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2123660) **12.30pm** Neighbours (8511047) **1.00** EastEnders (7073825) **1.30** The Bill (8510318) **2.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4054825) **2.30** Get Some In! (7269979) **3.00** Dallas (7375776) **4.00** Dynasty (7354283) **5.00** Blankety Blank (4078405) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (7250467) **6.00** Neighbours (7240080) **6.30** EastEnders (7264660) **7.00** Juliet Bravo (8307979) **8.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4074689) **8.30** Get Some In! (4053196) **9.00** Jemima Shore (8396863) **10.00** The Bill (2131689) **10.30** Whoops Baghdad (2117009) **11.00** Top of the Pops (9545776) **11.40** Dr Who (5215009) **12.10am** FILM: Don't Just Lie There, Say Something (1973): Sex farce with Joanna Lumley (82517603) **1.40** Video Bites (3403210) **2.30-7.00** Shopping (7587652)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am RatKan II (786202) **9.00** Jack in the Box (83134) **11.00** Ratkan II (401009) **2.00pm** Iris and the Happy Professor (74486) **3.00** RatKan II (3383) **3.30** Ovide and the Gang (2283) **4.00** The Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show (1318) **4.30-5.00** Around the World in 80 Seconds (2842)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Dawn Patrol (30931) **7.30** Guts (25738) **8.00** Get the Picture (57134) **8.30** Wild Side (58405) **9.00** We All Have Tales (47757) **9.30** Fraggle Rock (81689) **10.00** Janosch's Dream (18221) **10.30** The World of David the Gnome (38641) **11.00** Sharon, Lois and Bram's Elephant Show (68221) **11.30** Eureeka's Castle (22405) **12.30pm** We All Have Tales (85405) **1.00** The World of David the Gnome (39202) **1.30** Wisdom of the Gnomes (84776) **2.00** Janosch's Dream (8196) **2.30** Story Time (3370) **3.00** Kablooey (1301) **3.30** Out of Control (5115) **4.00** Fraggle Rock (7950) **4.30** Hey Dude (3134) **5.00** Clarissa Explains it All (2776) **5.30** Get the Picture (4486) **6.00** Guts (1399) **6.30-7.00** Welcome Freshmen (5979)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Challenge of the Seas (7261573) **4.30** The Arctic (7267757) **5.00** Valhalla (4076047) **5.30** Solar Man (7258009) **6.00** Only in Hollywood (6969979) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4368196) **7.00** Australia Wild (4056283) **7.30** From Monkeys to Apes (7268486) **8.00** Fire (4065931) **8.30** Paramedics (4051738) **9.00** The Dinosaurs (8394405) **10.00** Rediscovering America (8387592) **11.00** Waterways (7353554) **11.30-12.00** Earthfile (2032370)

BRAVO
12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (2125028) **12.30pm** FILM: It Happened at the World's Fair (1963): Elvis Presley romantic comedy (96763467) **2.15** FILM: The Truth About Spring (1964): Sailor's daughter Hayley Mills falls in love (6041028) **4.00** The Flying Nun (7265399) **4.30** My Three Sons (7254283) **5.00** The Beverly Hillbillies (4063573) **5.30** Donny and Marie (7278863) **6.00** Honey West (7275776) **6.30** Scotland Yard (7266028) **7.00** The Big Valley (8392047) **8.00** FILM: Ring of Spies (1964, b/w). Based on the Portland Soviet spy ring trial (9257450) **9.30** FILM: It Happened at the World's Fair (as 12.30pm) (7222592) **11.15** Art Linkletter and the Kids (2501776) **11.30-12.00** The Twilight Zone (2036196)

UK LIVING
7.00am Jayne and Friends (5307863) **8.00** Fame, Fortune and Romance (3709757) **8.30** Living Daylights (3160592) **8.45** Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga (3165047) **9.00** Divorce Court (6159478) **9.30** Hot Topics (8599979) **10.00** The Treatment (3098283) **10.30** Living Extra (4254842) **11.00** The Home Show (4915370) **11.30** Masterchef 1991 (4923399) **12.00** Practical Living (27510134) **12.15pm** Kilroy (1262979) **1.00** Crosswits (2206660) **1.30** Infatuation (8569738) **2.00** Days of our Lives (3099912) **3.00** Agony Hour (4927115) **4.00** Crosswits (2474824) **4.30** Infatuation (6074868) **5.00** Highlights of Jayne and Friends (6715950) **6.00** Health UK (5729991) **6.30** Raw Energy (1024383) **7.00** Agony Hour (2167561) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (8228711) **9.00** FILM: Closet Land (1991): A children's writer is abducted. With Alan Rickman (17285641) **10.40** Delia Smith's One is Fun (2821115) **11.00** Divorce Court (4947979) **11.30** Dr Ruth (3094467) **12.00-1.00am** Days of Our Lives (5261871)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm The Wonder Years (2318) **5.30** Danger Bay (1554) **6.00** Big Brother Jake (8467) **6.30** Catchphrase (2047) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (2554) **7.30** All Clued Up (1931) **8.00** Remington Steele (17467) **9.00** Neon Rider (20931) **10.00** WKRP in Cincinnati (77912) **10.30** The Bob Newhart Show (86660) **11.00** Newhart (90202) **11.30** The Mary Tyler Moore Show (62641) **12.00-1.00am** Lou Grant (59968)

MTV
6.00am Awake on the Wild Side (43080) **8.30** New Order (84863) **7.00** Wild Side (25318) **8.30** REM (74825) **9.00** VJ Ingo (85592) **11.00** Unplugged: k d lang (18318) **12.00** Greatest Hits (15660) **1.00pm** VJ Simone (56080) **3.00** LL Cool J (2931) **3.30** The Report (6695047) **3.45** At the Movies (6863202) **4.00** News (5068554) **4.15** 3 from 1 (5089405) **4.30** Dial MTV (2660) **5.00** The Soul of MTV (4776) **5.30** Music Non-Stop (64554) **7.00** The Real World 6 (4912) **7.30** Most Wanted (36134) **9.00** Greatest Hits (39689) **10.00** The Report (307399) **10.15** At the Movies (395554) **10.30** News (170080) **10.45** 3 from 1 (108653) **11.00** Post Modern (54318) **1.00am** VJ Marijne (18719) **2.00-6.00** Night Videos (9623528)

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (31757) **7.00** Regional News (29671) **7.30** Asian Morning (73202) **9.00** Gutdasta (54196) **10.00** Pakistani FILM (412115) **1.00pm** Taalash (59842) **1.30** Hindi FILM: Angoor (329831) **4.30** Kiddie Time (4028) **5.00-6.00** Your Dedications (8979) **7.00** Mere Saath Chal (2912) **7.30** Worldline (4863) **8.00** English News (152080) **8.15** Hindi FILM: Tamacha (59364283) **11.15** Pal Jhar (973134) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (5025500) **1.35-6.00** Sight and Sound (18296351)

TNT
Tonight's Theme: What's in a Name
7.00pm Cass Timberlane (1947, b/w): Judge Spencer Tracy's friends are appalled when he falls for Lana Turner (19545318)
9.15 Ada (1961): A politician marries a former call girl. With Dean Martin (87405134)
11.20 Evelyn Prentice (1934): Myrna Loy fights a murder rap (12045641)
12.50am Doctor Monica (1934, b/w): A doctor adopts the child of her husband's adulterous affair. With Kay Francis and Jean Muir (92083600)
1.55 Polly of the Circus (1932, b/w): A minister, Clark Gable, falls for an injured trapeze artist, Marion Davies (42815061)
3.15 Athena (1954): Romantic musical with Debbie Reynolds and Jane Powell (94190784). Ends at **4.50**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

Ireland in World Cup lottery

Draw for finals changes into game of chance

FROM ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN MIAMI

THE formula for seeding and banding the 24 nations for the final stages of the World Cup next year, with Ireland the only representatives from the British Isles, will be changed dramatically when the announcement is made tomorrow.

As the wheel goes round, so the draw seems ever more in a spin. The formula, which *The Times* has obtained, has nothing like the mathematical and historical complexity of bandings that Fifa announced, then withdrew, within an hour last weekend. Now only six teams will be seeded with the other 18 going into three separate pots, grouped according to geography and politics.

It effectively means that Jack Charlton's squad lose the protection they appeared to have when being placed among the second group of seedings last week. Charlton will be on of the very few managers not travelling to Las Vegas. He always was a singular man, but he will share Sunday night with Irish FA officials in front of a television set in Dublin.

The word from that headquarters is that if the draw has changed in format, then so be it. The Irish will now have to take their chances in a draw that appears to be little more than a game of chance in which the random selection of the Irish in the third coloured glass pot could either put them into a group beyond their means or into one of such boredom about which not even the good Irish folk of Boston could enthuse.

This risk, however, is an improvement on the inequity that had been built into the previous attempts to grade each of the 24 finalists on a points system according to their achievements, their failings or their absences from the last three World Cups.

After protests from Holland, in particular, from other nations and from the hosts, it is believed that this system has now been abandoned, and that Fifa will no longer attempt to seed nations other than the already-announced top six teams on the basis of a system that purported to decide merit.

Whoever else takes the stage at Caesars Palace Convention Centre on Sunday, Sepp Blatter, the Fifa general secretary and World Cup draw showman, will attempt to run the affair as innocently as he can. Many in the past have wondered whether his orchestration of the selection of named balls representing each of the nations contained some form of illusionist's trick.

He has been asked directly if this has been the case, and has always given charming but evasive non-answers. Many observers have never been able to fathom all of the intricacies that after an apparently simple task of drawing balls out of bowls managed to evade the vexed political problems inherent in the finals, much less to produce seemingly uneven groups and to spread the quality as best Fifa could.

On the face of it, Sunday's draw, with a free hand plucking teams in order from four pots, could result in astonishing unevenness. For example, it would be possible for Brazil, Colombia, Holland and Sweden to be drawn in one group. It is equally possible that a boring selection of Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria and Norway could be in another, while it is difficult to see who would pay hundreds of dollars to watch a group composed of Morocco, Belgium, Rumania and Saudi Arabia.

Somehow, there must be a way of avoiding that. But the question of where the groups will be playing in the nine stadiums to be used for the finals will not be known until all 24 names are drawn, with the exception of the group involving Germany. It is predordained that the world champions will begin in Chicago on June 17.

Beyond that, the task will then fall to the organising committee to spread the groups around in the nine cities across this vast and at the moment hardly expectant nation.

It is suggested that the new formula for the draw will make it more rather than less likely that Ireland will get their wish of playing the first round among their own expats in Boston. Similarly, Italians believe that their group will be based on New Jersey, close to the New York Italian fraternity.

However, a more cynical view occupied the mind of one observer from within the lower ranks of the organising structure. "Why would you suppose each country with strong ethnic ties would be placed in the ethnic pockets that they desire?" he said. "The tickets are a sell-out, many of them to the corporate community. So, have you considered how much more we could make, or rather how much we could help others to make, by obliging the Irish-Americans or the New York Italians to take a plane to some other city, to spend money in the hotels and the shops there?"

That is not a widely held view. Nobody here denies, though, that the profit motive rules, and Alan Rothenberg, effectively the commander-in-chief of World Cup USA '94, has already pledged that the tournament will bring in $4 billion from all sources.

The final illusion can be seen in a shop window not far from the Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas was this. It is, believe it or not, a World Cup shop, inviting customers, in the American sporting phrase to be "part of the legend" to buy souvenirs. Among those on display are England shirts and caps. Somebody, somewhere, is not telling it like it is.

GROUPINGS

Pot 1 (the six seeds): United States, Germany, Argentina, Brazil, Italy, Belgium.

Pot 2 (unseeded): Cameroon, Morocco, Nigeria, Bolivia, Colombia, Mexico.

Pot 3: Spain, Russia, Ireland, Romania, Holland, Bulgaria.

Pot 4: South Korea, Saudia Arabia, Sweden, Greece, Norway, Switzerland.

Uefa Cup draw, page 35

Relaxed Faldo in swing for title defence



Nick Faldo, bare-footed and relaxed during practice in Montego Bay, Jamaica, will be aiming to hold on to his rating as the world's No 1 golfer when he defends the Johnnie Walker world championship, which starts tomorrow. Photograph: Dave Rogers/Allsport

Nilsson to remain at Hillsborough

BY KEITH PIKE

ROLAND Nilsson, the Sheffield Wednesday defender who said he would retire from football this weekend in order to return to his native Sweden, has agreed to stay with the club until the end of the season.

Nilsson, 30, had been due to follow his wife and children back to Sweden after playing against West Ham United on Saturday. His family, who had complained of being homesick, returned at the beginning of October.

Nilsson, who joined Wednesday for £375,000 from IFK Gothenburg four years ago, will be given a free transfer in May provided he plays only for his home town club, Helsingborg. The decision also means he will be able to represent Sweden in the World Cup finals next summer.

"This was an eleventh-hour compromise and although we still have to replace Roland the urgency has gone out of our search," Trevor Francis, the Wednesday manager, said. "He was absolutely adamant about leaving us and we thought we'd done all we could to satisfy him. I do not think anything other than the deal we finally reached would have kept him here."

Sheffield United have also run into trouble over their Scandinavian players. United have asked the Premier League to postpone two matches in January because Jostein Flo and Roger Nilsen will be in the United States as part of Norway's World Cup preparations.

Norway have arranged warm-up matches against the hosts and Mexico, and United have asked for the Premiership games against Blackburn Rovers, on January 15, and the Sheffield derby, on January 22, to be put back.

Manchester City and Nottingham Forest, who meet at Maine Road tonight in a Coca-Cola Cup fourth-round replay, experienced contrasting fortunes in the transfer market yesterday.

Brian Horton, the City manager who has lost Niall Quinn for the rest of the season to injury and has Quinn's fellow striker, Carl Griffiths, cup-tied, tried to sign Frank McAvennie on loan from Celtic in time to play against Forest. Lou Macari, the Celtic manager, refused to sanction the deal. Alf Inge Haaland, though, has completed his £250,000 move to Forest from the Norwegian club, Bryne.

Bournemouth, the second division club that faces an FA Cup second-round replay at Nuneaton Borough tonight, have revealed they are in severe financial difficulties, with debts of around £2 million.

The club is to meet Lloyds Bank representatives on Friday to discuss the crisis. "At the moment the club is on the verge of its biggest ever battle, a battle to stay in existence," Tony Pulis, the manager, said in a prepared statement issued on behalf of the club chairman, Norman Hayward. "The club and the bank are in deep discussions about whether or not we can be saved from the liquidators."

Webb offers resignation after player appeal



Webb: waiting

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

DAVE Webb yesterday offered his resignation as the manager of Brentford after being ordered to reinstate Micky Bennett, a player dismissed by the club after fracturing the jaw of a team-mate, Joe Allon, jaw in a training ground incident. Webb's decision followed the news that a Football League Appeals Commission (FLAC) had ordered the club to take him back.

Webb, who took charge at Griffin Park only during the summer, reacted to the decision by immediately tendering his resignation and is now waiting to see if the Brentford chairman, Martin Lange, who is at present on holiday in Florida, will decide to accept it.

In a statement, Webb said: "The decision by the FLAC has left me extremely uncertain as to the level of management control they will allow. I have, because of this, tendered my resignation to my chairman, Mr Lange, and will be guided by him as to the club's and my own position in response to the decision taken by the League's Commission."

Lange is expected to be told of the news tomorrow and will want to do everything possible to keep Webb, who has recently guided the team to a ten-match unbeaten run.

John Fashanu, the Wimbledon forward, must face an Football Association commission of inquiry into the Gary Mabbutt elbowing incident just two days before Christmas. Fashanu has told the FA that the clash that put Mabbutt, the Tottenham captain, in hospital with severe facial injuries was "a complete and genuine accident".

Both players and the match officials have been "invited" to watch a video of the incident. That hearing has been arranged for December 23 at Lancaster Gate and the FA will then decide whether or not to put Fashanu in the dock.

The Football Association of Wales (FAW) secretary, Alun Evans, has had his job upgraded to chief executive. While the FAW considers the terms of a new contract for the national team manager, Terry Yorath, it has quickly put into effect a decision ratified at the ruling council's quarterly meeting last month. The FAW president, Elfed Evans, said: "We felt we should call him chief executive. It gives him a more important title in his role as secretary of a national association."

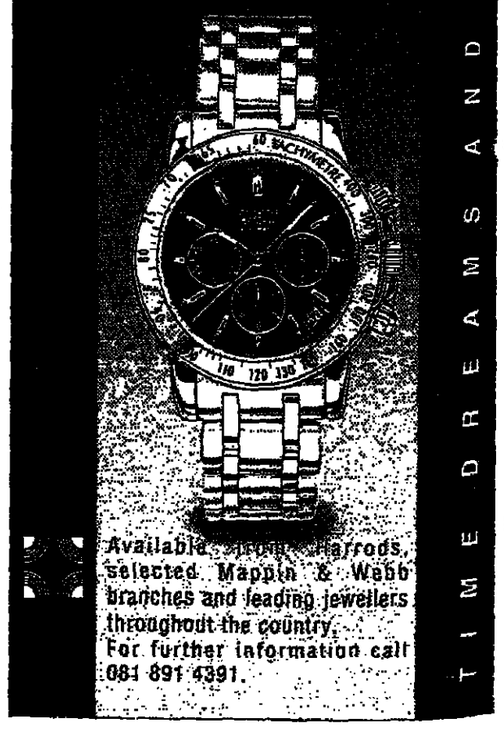
Mark Robins, the forward, last night declared himself fit to rejoin Norwich City's FA Carling Premiership campaign, but admitted "I don't know if I'm needed". Robins completed his first game for two months on Monday following a knee injury, but Norwich's impressive league form has left him worried about reclaiming his place.

"It won't be easy to get back in the side," he said. "Norwich are going well at the moment and Chris Sutton and Efan Ekoku are doing the business. It's down to the manager who plays." Robins, 24, has been sidelined for eight weeks with a knee injury sustained in the Uefa Cup tie against Bayern Munich earlier this season.

ZENITH

RAINBOW

Automatic chronographs equipped with the legendary "El Primero" movement by Zenith, the only one in its category capable of recording short time intervals to 1/10 of a second. Models in gold, steel and yellow metal or steel, anti-reflection sapphire glass, screwed down push buttons and crown, water resistant to 50 or 100m.

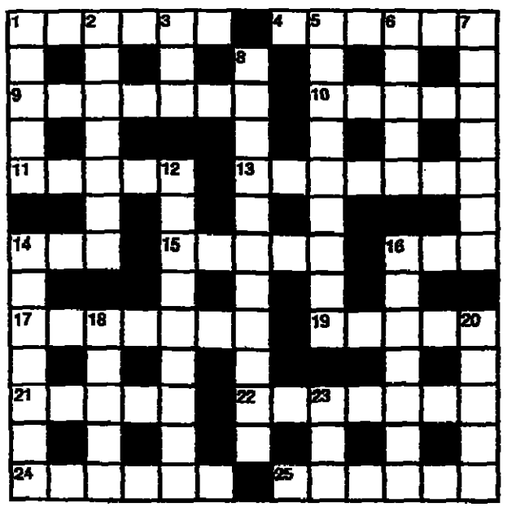


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TECHNOLOGY TIME DREAMS AND

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 39



ACROSS

1 Intruder in nest (6)
4 Black/white wader with curved bill (6)
9 Conjugal (7)
10 Poet mistaken for Caesar's murderer (5)
11 Added spirits to drink (5)
13 Income (7)
14 Donkey (3)
15 Cut off (5)
16 Greek goddess of mischief (3)
17 Due regard (7)
19 Develop line of reasoning (5)
21 Distressed; reduced to pieces (3,2)
22 Change of house (7)
24 Treeless Arctic plain (6)
25 Car engine cover (6)

DOWN

1 Beast of burden (5)
2 Venezuelan capital (7)
3 Dismissed (3)
5 In the reverse order (4,5)
6 Member of chapter (5)
7 Acrobats' swing (7)
8 Troubadour opera (2,9)
12 Paint; disease (9)
14 Orange/yellow soft fruit (7)
16 Of the Plantagenet house (7)
18 Occupy as protest (3,2)
20 Dazzling success (5)
23 Sound like a cow (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 38

ACROSS: 1 Fresco 5 Bald 8 Purr 9 Defector 10 Cheyenne 11 Heed 12 Arthur 14 Victor 16 Ball 18 Nasality 20 Lambaste 21 Mime 22 Left 23 Tenant

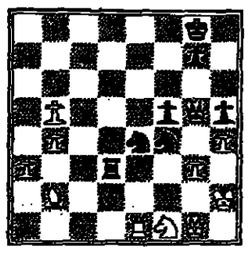
DOWN: 2 Rougher 3 Sorry 4 Ordinariness 5 Bacchic 6 Loose 7 Effervescent 13 Halibut 15 Ottoman 17 Agape 19 Lemon

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 (Special Edition 240 puzzles) £5.74 each, Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords — Book 1 £5.25, Book 2 £5.99, Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 13 £4.74 each, Books 14 to 16 £4.25 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each, Book 11 £4.25, Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Akom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released for Christmas. The Times Crosswords — Book 17. The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12. £4.25 each.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



This position is a variation from the game Smyslov - Kosten, Hastings Premier 1988/89. How can Black force a quick checkmate?

Spectators wishing to visit this year's category 13 Hastings Premier should ring 0424 - 445348 for further details.

Raymond Keene, page 8
Solution, page 35

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

LOGAEODIC
a. A pictogram
b. Oozing pus
c. A type of metre

MONANDROUS
a. Divided by two
b. Fertile
c. Having one mate at a time

DIAMANTIFEROUS
a. Argumentative
b. Yielding diamonds
c. Prognosticating

EUMORPHOUS
a. Lucky
b. Well-shaped
c. The white agapanthus

Answers on page 35

هكذا من الأصل